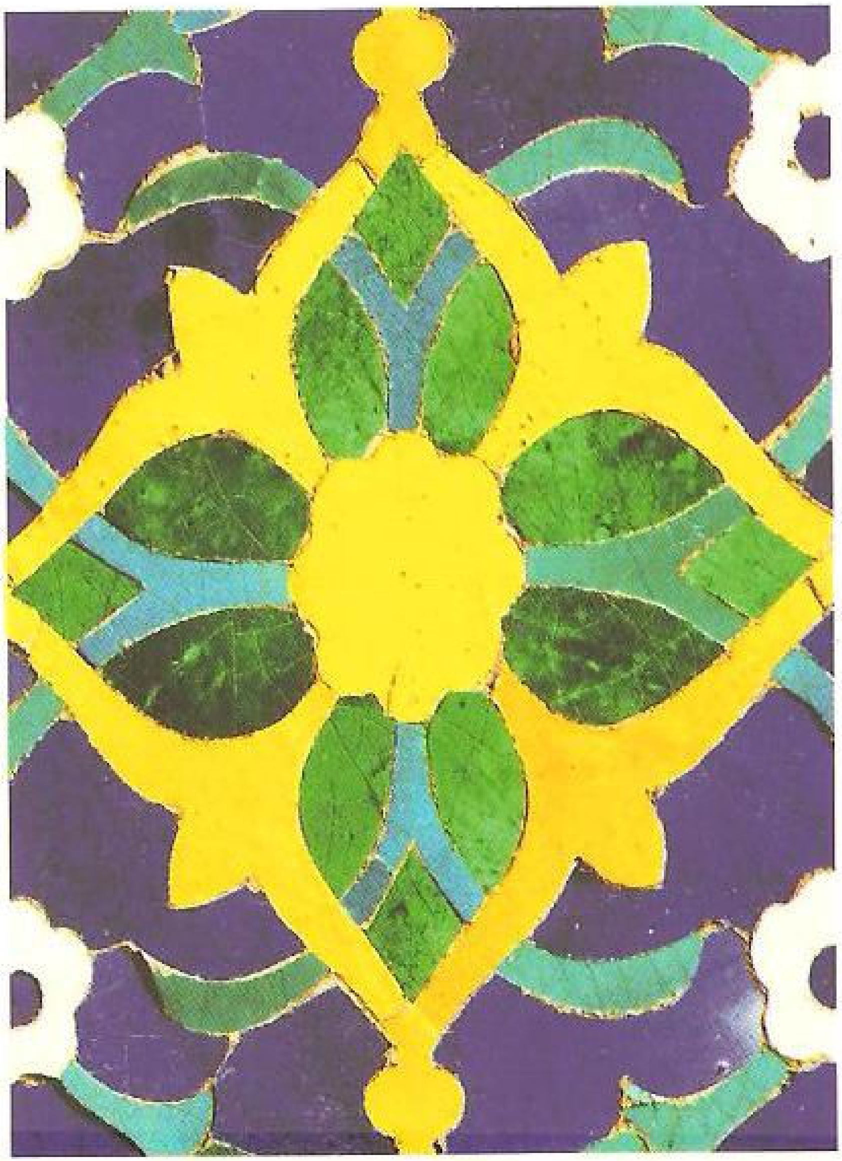
THE QURAN



Translated by Maulana Wahiduddin Khan

THE QURAN

The Quran, a book which brings glad tidings to mankind along with divine admonition, stresses the importance of man's discovery of truth on both spiritual and intellectual planes.

Every book has its objective and the objective of the Quran is to make man aware of the Creation plan of God. That is, to tell man why God created this world; what the purpose is of settling man on earth; what is required from man in his pre-death life span, and what he is going to confront after death. The purpose of the Quran is to make man aware of this reality, thus serving to guide man on his entire journey through life into the after-life.

The main themes of the Quran are enlightenment, closeness to God, peace and spirituality. The Quran uses several terms, *tawassum*, *tadabbur*, and *tafakkur*, which indicate the learning of lessons through reflection, thinking and contemplation on the signs of God scattered across the world. The present translation of the Quran has been done keeping in mind these very themes.

Maulana Wahiduddin Khan, born in 1925 at Azamgarh in India, is an Islamic spiritual scholar who is well versed in both classical Islamic learning and modern science. The mission of his life from a very early stage has been the establishment of world-wide peace. To this end he has devoted much time and effort to the development of a complete ideology of peace and non-violence based on the teachings of the Quran. In the course of his research, the Maulana came to the conclusion that the need of the hour was to present Islamic teachings in the style and language of the present day. Keeping this ideal consistently before him, he has written over 200 books on Islam. In 1983, he wrote a commentary on the Quran, the Arabic version of which was published by Darel Wafa, Cairo as *al-Tadhkir al-Qawim fi Tafsir al-Quran al-Hakim*. To cater to inquisitive minds and the needs of the spiritually inclined, the Maulana established at New Delhi in 2001 the Centre for Peace and Spirituality. His most recent publication is *The Prophet of Peace: The Teachings of Muhammad* (Penguin Books).

Farida Khanam, the daughter of Maulana Wahiduddin Khan, holds a Ph.D. in Islamic Studies. She is currently an associate professor at Jamia Millia Islamia University at New Delhi. She has written and translated a number of books on Islam.

THE QURAN

Translated by

MAULANA WAHIDUDDIN KHAN

Edited by

FARIDA KHANAM

GOODWORD BOOKS

GOODWORD'S QURAN PROJECT

*The Quran is the word of God and
it is the duty of believers to communicate
the message of the Quran to all human beings
so that they may know the reality of life.
To facilitate this good work,
Goodword Books has produced this
English translation of the Quran,
so that it may be distributed
on a mass scale.*

First published by Goodword Books 2009

Goodword Books
1, Nizamuddin West Market
New Delhi - 110 013
Email: info@goodwordbooks.com
www.goodwordbooks.com
www.goodword.net

Printed in India by
Replika Press Pvt Ltd

CONTENTS

Introduction ix

The Creation Plan of God x
A Book of Divine Warning xi
The Inner Spirit and God Realization xii
The Word of God xiii
Jihad is a Peaceful Ideological Struggle xiv
A Revealed Book xvii

Chronological Table of the Quran xix

Map of Arabian Peninsula at the Time of the Revelation of the Quran xxi

THE QURAN

1. The Opening *(Al-Fatihah)* 1
2. The Heifer *(Al-Baqarah)* 1
3. The Family of ‘Imran *(Al-‘Imran)* 36
4. Women *(Al-Nisa’)* 56
5. The Table *(Al-Ma’idah)* 77
6. The Cattle *(Al-An‘am)* 92
7. The Heights *(Al-A‘raf)* 110
8. The Spoils of War *(Al-Anfal)* 129
9. Repentance *(Al-Tawbah)* 136
10. Jonah *(Yunus)* 151
11. Hud *(Hud)* 162
12. Joseph *(Yusuf)* 173
13. Thunder *(Al-Ra‘d)* 183
14. Abraham *(Ibrahim)* 188
15. The Rocky Tract *(Al-Hijr)* 193
16. Bees *(Al-Nahl)* 197
17. The Night Journey (*Al-Isra’*) 208

18. The Cave *(Al-Kahf)* 218
19. Mary *(Maryam)* 227
20. *Ta Ha (Ta Ha)* 233
21. The Prophets *(Al-Anbiya')* 242
22. The Pilgrimage *(Al-Hajj)* 249
23. The Believers *(Al-Mu'minun)* 256
24. Light *(Al-Nur)* 263
25. The Criterion *(Al-Furqan)* 270
26. The Poets *(Al-Shu'ara')* 276
27. The Ants *(Al-Naml)* 284
28. The Story *(Al-Qasas)* 291
29. The Spider *(Al-'Ankabut)* 299
30. The Romans *(Al-Rum)* 305
31. Luqman *(Luqman)* 310
32. Prostration *(Al-Sajdah)* 313
33. The Confederates *(Al-Ahzab)* 315
34. Sheba *(Saba')* 323
35. The Creator *(Fatir)* 328
36. *Ya Sin (Ya Sin)* 333
37. The Ranks *(Al-Saffat)* 337
38. *Sad (Sad)* 343
39. The Crowds *(Al-Zumar)* 348
40. The Forgiver *(Ghafir)* 355
41. Revelations Well Expounded *(Fussilat)* 362
42. Mutual Consultation *(Al-Shura)* 367
43. Ornaments of Gold *(Al-Zukhruf)* 372
44. Smoke *(Al-Dukhan)* 377
45. Kneeling *(Al-Jathiyah)* 380
46. The Sand Dunes *(Al-Ahqaf)* 383
47. Muhammad *(Muhammad)* 387
48. Victory *(Al-Fath)* 390
49. The Apartments *(Al-Hujurat)* 394
50. *Qaf (Qaf)* 396

51. Scattering Winds *(Al-Dhariyat)* 398
52. Mount Sinai *(Al-Tur)* 401
53. The Setting Star *(Al-Najm)* 403
54. The Moon *(Al-Qamar)* 405
55. The Merciful *(Al-Rahman)* 408
56. The Inevitable Event *(Al-Waqi'ah)* 411
57. Iron *(Al-Hadid)* 414
58. The Pleading *(Al-Mujadalah)* 417
59. Banishment *(Al-Hashr)* 420
60. She Who is Tested *(Al-Mumtahanah)* 423
61. Ranks *(Al-Saff)* 425
62. The Day of Congregation *(Al-Jumu'ah)* 427
63. The Hypocrites *(Al-Munafiqun)* 428
64. Loss and Gain *(Al-Taghabun)* 429
65. Divorce *(Al-Talaq)* 431
66. Prohibition *(Al-Tahrim)* 433
67. The Kingdom *(Al-Mulk)* 434
68. The Pen *(Al-Qalam)* 436
69. The Inevitable Hour *(Al-Haqqah)* 439
70. The Ascending Stairways *(Al-Ma'arij)* 441
71. Noah *(Nuh)* 442
72. The Jinn *(Al-Jinn)* 444
73. The Wrapped One *(Al-Muzzammil)* 445
74. Wrapped in his Cloak *(Al-Muddaththir)* 447
75. The Day of Resurrection *(Al-Qiyamah)* 449
76. Man *(Al-Insan)* 450
77. Those that are Sent Forth *(Al-Mursalat)* 452
78. The Tidings *(Al-Naba')* 453
79. The Pluckers *(Al-Nazi'at)* 455
80. He Frowned *('Abasa)* 456
81. Folding Up *(Al-Takwir)* 457
82. The Cleaving Asunder *(Al-Infitar)* 458
83. Those who Give Short Measure *(Al-Mutaffifin)* 459

84. The Bursting Open *(Al-Inshiqaq)* 460
85. The Constellations *(Al-Buruj)* 461
86. That which Comes in the Night *(Al-Tariq)* 462
87. The Most High *(Al-A'la)* 462
88. The Overwhelming Event *(Al-Ghashiyah)* 463
89. The Dawn *(Al-Fajr)* 464
90. The City *(Al-Balad)* 465
91. The Sun *(Al-Shams)* 465
92. Night *(Al-Layl)* 466
93. The Glorious Morning Light *(Al-Duha)* 467
94. Comfort *(Al-Sharh)* 467
95. The Fig *(Al-Tin)* 468
96. The Clot *(Al-'Alaq)* 468
97. The Night of Destiny *(Al-Qadr)* 469
98. The Clear Evidence *(Al-Bayyinah)* 469
99. The Earthquake *(Al-Zalzalah)* 470
100. The Snorting Horses *(Al-'Adiyat)* 470
101. The Clatterer *(Al-Qari'ah)* 471
102. Greed for More and More *(Al-Takathur)* 471
103. The Passage of Time *(Al-'Asr)* 472
104. The Backbiter *(Al-Humazah)* 472
105. The Elephant *(Al-Fil)* 472
106. Quraysh *(Quraysh)* 473
107. Small Things *(Al-Ma'un)* 473
108. Abundance *(Al-Kawthar)* 473
109. Those who Deny the Truth *(Al-Kafirun)* 474
110. Help *(Al-Nasr)* 474
111. Twisted Fibre *(Al-Masad)* 474
112. Oneness *(Al-Ikhlas)* 475
113. Daybreak *(Al-Falaq)* 475
114. People *(Al-Nas)* 475

Index 476

INTRODUCTION

The Quran is the Book of God. It has been preserved in its entirety for all time to come. Although written originally in Arabic, it has been made accessible, thanks to translations, to those who have no knowledge of Arabic. While no substitute for the original, translations serve the signal purpose of spreading the word of God far beyond the Arabic-speaking peoples to a far broader spectrum of humanity.

The Quran is apparently in the Arabic language, but in reality, it is in the language of nature, that is, the language in which God directly addressed all human beings at the time of Creation. This divine invocation of humanity is ever-present in the consciousness of all human beings, that is why the Quran is universally understandable—to some on a conscious plane, and to others at the subconscious level. This reality has been described in the Quran as 'clear revelations in the hearts of those who have been given knowledge.' This verse goes on to say that 'none deny Our revelations save the wrongdoers' (20:49).

This means that the Divine Reality, explained by the Quran on a conscious plane, pre-exists in man at the level of the subconscious. The message of the Quran is not, therefore, something which is alien to man. It is in fact a verbal expression of that same Divine Reality which is in consonance with man's own nature and with which he is already familiar. The Quran explains this by saying that those born in later times were all initially born at the time of the creation of Adam and, at that time, God had directly addressed all these human souls.

This event is thus alluded to in the Quran:

'[Prophet], when your Lord brought forth the offspring from the loins of the Children of Adam and made them bear witness about themselves, He said, 'Am I not your Lord?' and they replied, 'Yes,

we bear witness that You are.' So you cannot say on the Day of Resurrection, 'We were not aware of this' (7:172).

In the following verse, the Quran makes further mention of the dialogue between God and man:

'Surely We offered Our trust to the heavens and the earth, and the hills, but they shrank from bearing it and were afraid of it. And man undertook it. But he has proved a tyrant and a fool' (33:72).

The Quran, for man, is in essence already known to him, rather than an entirely unknown entity. In reality, the Quran is the unfolding of the human mind.

When one whose nature is alive—having saved himself from later conditioning—reads the Quran, those brain cells will be activated wherein God's first address lies preserved. If we keep this in mind, it will not be difficult to appreciate that the translation of the Quran is a valid means of understanding it.

If God's address was the First Covenant, the Quran is the Second Covenant. Each testifies to the veracity of the other. If one has little, or even no grasp of the Arabic language, and can read the scriptures only in translation, he should not anticipate that he will be frustrated in his understanding of the Quran, for the Quranic concept of man as the natural recipient of God's word has become a reality in modern times. The science of the genetic code and the findings of anthropology both fully support this viewpoint.

The Creation Plan of God

Every book has its objective and the objective of the Quran is to make man aware of the Creation plan of God. That is, to tell man why God created this world; what the purpose is of settling man on earth; what is required from man in his pre-death life span, and what he is going to confront after death. Man is born as an eternal creature. When God created man as such, He divided his life span

into two periods, the pre-death period, which is a time of trial, and the post-death period, which is the time for receiving the rewards or punishment merited by one's actions during one's lifetime. These take the form of eternal paradise or eternal hell. The purpose of the Quran is to make man aware of this reality. This is the theme of this divine Book, which serves to guide man through his entire journey through life into the after-life.

It would be correct to say that man is a seeker by birth. These questions lurk in everyone's mind: Who am I? What is the purpose of my life? What is the reality of life and death? What is the secret of man's success and failure? etc. According to the Quran, the answer to these questions is that the present world is the testing ground and whatever man has been endowed with in his pre-death period is all a part of the test. The Hereafter is the place where the result of the test will be taken into account by the Almighty and whatever man receives in the life after death, by way of reward or punishment, will be commensurate with his deeds in this world. The secret of man's success in this life is to understand God's creation plan and map out his life accordingly.

A Book of Divine Warning

The Quran is a book of divine warning. A combination of lessons and admonitions, it would be even more appropriately called a book of wisdom. The Quran does not follow the pattern of the traditional didactic book. In fact, when the average reader picks up the Quran, it appears to him to be a collection of fragmentary statements. Apparently this feeling is not unreal. But this arrangement of the Quran is not due to any shortcoming, but is rather in conformance with the Quranic plan of retaining its original form in order to fulfill its purpose of conveying the message of truth to the reader who may,

in his forays into the scriptures, read only one page, one verse or one line at a time.

One vital aspect of the Quran is that it is a reminder of the blessings granted by the Supreme Benefactor. The most important of these are the exceptional qualities with which God endowed man when He created him. Another great blessing is that He settled him on the earth, a planet where all kinds of support systems existed for his benefit. The purpose of the Quran is to ensure that, while enjoying these blessings of nature, man will keep his Benefactor in mind: he must acknowledge the munificence of his Creator. It is in so doing that man will gain entry into eternal paradise; ignoring his Benefactor, on the other hand, will lead man straight to hell. The Quran is indeed a reminder of this inescapable reality.

There are some who think that the presence of a realized person is essential for an understanding of the Quran. That is, it is solely with the assistance of a spiritual person that the meaning of the Quran may be revealed. This is to underestimate both man and the Quran. The Quran addresses man's mind and the mind is man's greatest faculty. Discovering the Quran, therefore, on a purely intellectual level is sufficient to arrive at its meaning. Indeed, at the intellectual level, the Quran becomes an open book But those who discover the Quran at any lower level cannot be said to have discovered it at all. Falling back instead on their community traditions for instruction and enlightenment cannot compare with the ideal approach to religion that the Quran so consistently offers.

The Inner Spirit and God Realization

One important quality of the Quran is that it gives us only basic, but essential principles, often resorting to reiteration to emphasize them. On the contrary, non-basics, or matters relating only to form, constitute only a negligible part of the scriptures. This is in

consonance with the Quranic scheme, the importance of form being entirely secondary. To the Quran, only those precepts are important which figure as fundamental guidelines. This aspect of the Quran is so clear that its reader cannot but appreciate it.

The truth is that the inner spirit is of the utmost importance in the building of the Islamic personality. Once the inner spirit is developed, correct form will naturally ensue. But form on its own can never produce the inner spirit. That is why the aim of the Quran is to initiate and bring to fruition an intellectual revolution within man. The expression used by the Quran for this intellectual revolution is *ma'rifah* (realization of truth) (5:83).

The Quran stresses the importance of man's discovery of truth at the level of realization. True faith in God is what one achieves at such a level. Where there is no realization, there is no faith.

The Word of God

When you read the Quran, you will repeatedly find it stated that it is the word of God. Apparently this is a plain fact. But when seen in context, it is an extraordinary statement. There are many books in the world which are believed to be sacred. But, except for the Quran, we do not find any religious book which thus projects itself as the word of God. This kind of statement, appearing uniquely in the Quran, gives a point of departure to the reader. He then studies it as an exceptional book, rather than as a common book written by human beings. We find recurring in the Quran statements worded more or less as follows, 'O man, it is your Lord, who is addressing you. Listen to His words and follow Him.' Even this style of address is quite exceptional. This kind of direct divine invocation is not present in any other book. It leaves a lasting impression on man. He feels his Lord is directly addressing him. This feeling compels man to take the assertions of the Quran with extreme seriousness, rather

than treat them like everyday statements in an ordinary book. The style of compilation of the Quran is also unique. Books written by human beings usually have their material arranged in order from A to Z, according to the topic. But the Quran does not follow a pattern of this kind, so that to the common man it appears to be lacking in order. When looked at in reality, however, it will emerge as an extremely coherent and orderly book, and quite majestic in its style of writing. While reading the Quran, we feel that its writer is on a very high pedestal from where He is looking down and addressing the whole of humanity, which is His special concern. This address focuses on different groups of human beings, while encompassing all of them.

One special aspect of the Quran is that at any moment its reader can consult its Writer, put his questions and receive answers, for the Writer of the Quran is God Himself. He is a living God. As man's Creator, He directly hears and answers man's call.

Jihad *is a Peaceful Ideological Struggle*

Those who are introduced to the Quran only through the media, generally have the impression that the Quran is a book of *jihad*, and *jihad* to them is an attempt to achieve one's goal by means of violence. But this idea is based on a misunderstanding. Anyone who reads the Quran for himself will easily appreciate that its message has nothing to do with violence. The Quran is, from beginning to end, a book which promulgates peace and in no way countenances violence. It is true that *jihad* is one of the teachings of the Quran. But *jihad*, taken in its correct sense, is the name of peaceful struggle rather than of any kind of violent action. The Quranic concept of jihad is expressed in the following verse, 'Do greater *jihad* (i.e strive more strenuously) with the help of this [Quran]' (25:52).

Obviously, the Quran is not a weapon, but a book which gives us an introduction to the divine ideology of peaceful struggle. The method of such a struggle, according to the Quran, is 'to speak to them a word to reach their very soul' (4:63).

So, the desired approach, acccording to the Quran, is one which moves man's heart and mind. That is, in addressing people's minds, it satisfies them, convinces them of the veracity of the Quran and, in short, brings about an intellectual revolution within them. This is the mission of the Quran. And this mission can be performed only by means of rational arguments. This target can never be achieved by means of violence or armed action.

It is true that there are certain verses in the Quran, which convey injunctions similar to the following, 'Slay them wherever you find them' (2:191).

Referring to such verses, there are some who attempt to give the impression that Islam is a religion of war and violence. This is totally untrue. Such verses relate, in a restricted sense, to those who have unilaterally attacked the Muslims. The above verse does not convey the general command of Islam.

The truth of the matter is that the Quran was not revealed in the complete form in which it exists today. It was revealed from time to time, according to the circumstances, over a time span of 23 years. If this is divided into years of war and peace, the period of peace amounts to 20 years, while that of war amounts only to 3 years. The revelations during these 20 peaceful years were the peaceful teachings of Islam as are conveyed in the verses regarding the realization of God, worship, morality, justice, etc.

This division of commands into different categories is a natural one and is found in all religious books. For instance, the Gita, the holy book of the Hindus, pertains to wisdom and moral values. Yet along with this is the exhortation of Krishna to Arjuna, encouraging

him to fight (Bhagavad Gita, 3:30). This does not mean that believers in the Gita should wage wars all the time. Mahatma Gandhi, after all, derived his philosophy of non-violence from the same Gita. The exhortation to wage war in the Gita applies only to exceptional cases where circumstances leave no choice. But for general day-to-day existence it gives the same peaceful commands as derived from it by Mahatma Gandhi.

Similarly, Jesus Christ said, 'Do not think that I came to bring peace on Earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.' (Matthew, 10:34).

It would not be right to conclude that the religion preached by Christ was one of war and violence, for such utterances relate purely to particular occasions. So far as general life is concerned, Christ taught peaceful values, such as the building up of a good character, loving each other, helping the poor and needy, etc.

The same is true of the Quran. When the Prophet Muhammad emigrated from Makkah to Madinah, the idolatrous tribes were aggressive towards him. But the Prophet always averted their attacks by the exercise of patience and the strategy of avoidance. However on certain occasions no other options existed, save that of retaliation. Therefore, he had to do battle on certain occasions. It was these circumstances, which occasioned those revelations relating to war. These commands, being specific to certain circumstances, had no general application. They were not meant to be valid for all time to come. That is why; the permanent status of the Prophet has been termed a 'mercy for all mankind.' (21:107)

Islam is a religion of peace in the fullest sense of the word. The Quran calls its way 'the paths of peace' (5:16). It describes reconciliation as the best policy (4:128), and states that God abhors any disturbance of the peace (2:205). We can say that it is no exaggeration to say that Islam and violence are contradictory to

each other. The concept of Islamic violence is so obviously unfounded that prima facie it stands rejected. The fact that violence is not sustainable, in the present world, is sufficient indication that violence, as a principle, is quite alien to the scheme of things in Islam. Islam claims to be an eternal religion and, as such, could never afford to uphold any principle, which could not stand up to the test of time. Any attempt to bracket violence with Islam amounts, therefore, to casting doubt upon the very eternity of the Islamic religion. Islamic terrorism is a contradiction in terms, much like 'pacifist' terrorism. And the truth of the matter is that, all the teachings of Islam are based, directly or indirectly, on the principle of peace.

A Revealed Book

The Quran is a book of God revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. It did not come to him in the form of a complete book, but in parts over a period of 23 years. The first part was revealed in 610 AD, when the Prophet Muhammad was in Makkah. Subsequently, different parts continued to be revealed regularly, the final part being revealed in 632, when the Prophet was in Madinah.

There are 114 chapters in the Quran, both long and short. The verses number about 6600. To meet the needs of recitation, the Quran was divided into 30 parts. These parts were finally set in order under the guidance of the Angel Gabriel, through whom God had revealed the Quran.

When the Quran was revealed in the first quarter of the 7th century, paper had already been invented. This paper, known as papyrus, was made by hand from the fibres of certain trees. Whenever any part of the Quran was revealed, it was written down on papyrus, or in Arabic, *qirtas* (6:7). During this process, people committed the verses to memory, the Quran being the only Islamic

literature which was recited in prayer, as well as being read out for the purposes of *da'wah*. In this way, the Quran continued to be simultaneously memorized as well as written down. This method of preservation continued during the lifetime of the Prophet Muhammad. In this way, the Quran was preserved during the lifetime of the Prophet.

The third caliph, 'Uthman ibn 'Affan, had several copies prepared. He sent these to different cities, where they were kept in the great mosques. People not only recited from these copies, but also prepared more copies from them.

The writing of the Quran by hand continued till the printing press was invented and paper began to be manufactured on a large scale, thanks to the industrial revolution. Then, the Quran began to be printed. Printing methods went on improving and so the printing of the Quran also improved. Now printed copies of the Quran have become so common that they can be found in every home, mosque, library and bookstore. Today anyone can find a beautiful copy of the Quran, wherever he might be, in any part of the globe.

Maulana Wahiduddin Khan
sk@skhan.org

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF THE QURAN

570	Birth of the Prophet Muhammad (the Prophet's father died a few months before his birth)
576	Death of the Prophet's mother Aminah, when the Prophet is six year old
578	Death of the Prophet's grandfather, 'Abdul Muttalib
595	The Prophet's marriage to Khadijah
610	The Prophet receives the first revelation of the Quran at Mount al-Nur near Makkah
613	First public preaching.
615	Migration of some of the companions of the Prophet to Abyssinia (Ethiopia) to avoid persecution at the hands of the Makkans
616-619	The Banu Hashim boycotts the Prophet and his family
619	Death of the Prophet's wife Khadijah and uncle Abu Talib
619	The Prophet visits Taif for support, but the people there give him humiliating treatment.
620	The Prophet's Night Journey to Jerusalem and then to the Seven Heavens
622	The Prophet's migration (*hijrah*) from Makkah to Madinah, which marks the beginning of the Islamic calendar
624	Battle of Badr: the pagan Makkans were defeated by the Muslims

625	Battle of Uhud: the Muslims were defeated by the pagan Makkans
628	The Peace Treaty of Hudaybiyyah. Ten year no-war pact with pagan Makkans, allowing peaceful preaching of Islam. As a result many came into the fold of Islam
630	No-war pact broken by the pagan Makkans. Makkah's surrender—the Prophet forgives the Makkans and entire population enters the fold of Islam
631	'The Year of Embassies'—Islam accepted by Arabian tribes. The Prophet enters into peace treaties with the Christians and Jewish tribes
632	The Prophet's Farewell Pilgrimage to Makkah
632	8th June. Death of the Prophet Muhammad at Madinah
633	Quran prepared in one volume by Caliph Abu Bakr
645	Caliph 'Uthman has several copies of the Quran made and distributed in neighbouring countries
1153	First Latin translation of the Quran
1543	First printed edition with preface by Martin Luther
1649	Alexander Ross translates the Quran into English from French
1734	George Sale's translation of the Quran
1930	Muhammad Marmaduke Pickthall's translation of the Quran
1934	'Abdullah Yusuf 'Ali's translation of the Quran
1980	Muhammad Asad's translation of the Quran

Map of Arabian Peninsula showing places at the time of the revelation of the Quran, 610-632.



Blank

THE QURAN

Blank

1. THE OPENING

1 In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

2 All praise is due to God, the Lord of the Universe; 3 the Beneficent, the Merciful; 4 Lord of the Day of Judgement. 5 You alone we worship, and to You alone we turn for help. 6 Guide us to the straight path: 7 the path of those You have blessed; not of those who have incurred Your wrath, nor of those who have gone astray.

2. THE HEIFER

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Alif Lam Mim*

2 This is the Book; there is no doubt in it. It is a guide for those who are mindful of God, 3 who believe in the unseen, and are steadfast in prayer, and spend out of what We have provided them with; 4 those who believe in the revelation sent down to you and in what was sent before you, and firmly believe in the life to come—5 they are the people who are rightly following their Lord and it is they who shall be successful.

6 As for those who are bent on denying the truth, it makes no difference to them whether you warn them or not, they will not believe. 7 God has sealed their hearts and their ears, and over their eyes there is a covering. They will have a terrible punishment.

8 There are some who say, ‘We believe in God and the Last Day,’ yet they are not believers. 9 They seek to deceive God and the believers, but they only deceive themselves, though they do not realize it. 10 In their hearts

is a disease, which God has
increased. They will have a
painful punishment, because they
have been lying. 11 When they
are told, ‘Do not cause corruption
in the land,’ they say, ‘We are
only promoters of peace,’ 12 but
it is they who are really causing
corruption, though they do not
realize it. 13 And when they are
told, ‘Believe as other people
have believed,’ they say, ‘Are we
to believe just as fools believe?’
Surely they are the fools, even
though they do not realize it.
14 When they meet those who
believe, they say, ‘We believe.’
But when they are alone with
their evil leaders, they say, ‘We
are really with you; we were
only mocking.’ 15 God will
requite them for their mockery,
and draw them on, for a while, to
wander blindly in their insolence.
16 Such are those who have taken
misguidance in exchange for
guidance; but their bargain does
not profit them, nor have they
found true guidance.

17 They are like those who
kindled a fire, and when it lighted
up all around them, God took
away their light and left them in
utter darkness, unable to see—
18 deaf, dumb, and blind: they
will never return [to the right
path]. 19 Or their case is like that
of heavy rain pouring down from
the clouds, accompanied by
darkness, thunder and lightning;
they thrust their fingers in their
ears at the sound of thunderclaps
for fear of death. God thus
encompasses those who deny
the truth. 20 The lightning almost
takes away their sight: whenever
it flashes upon them, they walk
on, but as soon as darkness falls
around them, they stand still.
Indeed, if God pleased, He could
take away their hearing and their
sight: God has power over all
things.

21 People, worship your Lord,
who created you and those before
you, so that you may become
righteous, 22 who made the earth
a bed, and the sky a canopy; and
it is He who sends down rain
from above for the growth of
every kind of food for your
sustenance. And do not

knowingly set up rivals to God.
23 If you are in doubt about the
revelation We have sent down to
Our servant, then produce a
single chapter like it, and call
upon your helpers besides God,
if you are truthful. 24 But if you
cannot do it, and you can never
do it, then guard yourselves
against the Fire whose fuel is
men and stones, prepared for
those who deny the truth. 25 Give
the good news to those who
believe and do good works, that
they will have Gardens through
which rivers flow: whenever they
are given fruit to eat they will
say, 'This is what we were
provided with before,' because
they were given similar things.
And there will be pure spouses
for them, and they will abide
there forever.

26 God does not disdain to
give a parable about a gnat or a
smaller creature. The faithful
know that it is the truth from
their Lord, but those who deny
the truth ask, 'What could God
mean by this parable?' He lets
many go astray through it, and
guides many by it. But He makes
only the disobedient go astray:
27 those who break God's
covenant after they have pledged
to keep it, and sever whatever
God has ordered to be joined,
and spread corruption in the
land—it is they who are the
losers. 28 How can you disbelieve
in God when you were dead
[lifeless] and He gave you life?
He will let you die once more,
then bring you back to life again,
whereupon you will be returned
to Him. 29 It is He who created
everything on the earth for you:
then He turned towards heaven
and fashioned it into the seven
heavens. He has knowledge of
all things.

30 When your Lord said to the
angels, 'I am putting a successor
on earth,' they said, 'Will You
place someone there who will
cause corruption on it and shed
blood, while we glorify You with
Your praise and extol Your
holiness?' [God] answered,
'Surely, I know that which you
do not know.'

31 He taught Adam all the

names, then He set them before
the angels and said, ‘Tell Me the
names of these, if what you say
be true.’ 32 They said, ‘Glory be
to You; we have no knowledge
except whatever You have taught
us. You are the All Knowing, the
All Wise.’ 33 Then He said, ‘O
Adam, tell them their names.’
When Adam had told them the
names, God said to the angels,
‘Did I not say to you: I know the
secrets of the heavens and of the
earth, and I know what you
reveal and what you conceal?’

34 When We said to the angels,
‘Bow down before Adam,’ they
all bowed except for Iblis [Satan].
He refused and acted proudly
and became an unbeliever. 35 We
said, ‘O Adam! live with your
wife in Paradise and eat freely
from it anywhere you may wish.
Yet do not approach this tree lest
you become wrongdoers.’ 36 But
Satan caused them both to slip
through this and thus brought
about the loss of their former
state. We said, ‘Go down from
here as enemies to each other;
and on earth you shall have your
abode and your livelihood for a
while!’ 37 Then Adam received
some words [of prayer] from his
Lord and He accepted his
repentance. He is the Forgiving
One, the Merciful. 38 We said,
‘Go down, all of you, from here:
then when guidance comes to
you from Me, anyone who
follows My guidance will have
no fear, nor will they grieve—
39 those who deny and reject Our
signs shall be the inhabitants of
the Fire; therein shall they abide
forever.’

40 Children of Israel, remember
the favours I have bestowed upon
you, and fulfil the covenant that
you made with Me. I shall fulfil
the covenant I made with you.
Fear Me alone. 41 And believe in
the message I have sent down
which fulfils that [predictions
about the last prophet in their
Scripture] which you already
possess and do not be foremost
among those who deny its truth.
Do not sell My revelations for a
paltry price; fear Me alone. 42 Do
not mix truth with falsehood, or
hide the truth when you know it.

43 Attend to your prayers, give
the *zakat* [prescribed alms] and
bow down with those who bow
down. 44 Do you admonish others
to do good and forget this
yourselves? Yet you read the Book.
Will you not then understand?
45 Seek help with patience and
prayer; this is indeed an exacting
discipline, but not to the humble,
46 who know for certain that they
will meet their Lord, and that
they will return to Him.

47 Children of Israel, remember
My blessing which I have
bestowed on you, and how I
favoured you above all other
people. 48 Guard yourselves
against the Day on which no soul
shall in the least avail another,
when neither intercession nor
ransom shall be accepted from it
nor shall help be given to it.
49 Remember when We delivered
you from Pharaoh's people, who
subjected you to grievous
torment, slaying your sons and
sparing only your daughters—
surely in that there was a great
trial for you from your Lord—
50 and when We divided the sea
for you and saved you and
drowned Pharaoh's people, while
you looked on. 51 We appointed
for Moses forty nights [on Mount
Sinai], and in his absence you
took to worshipping the calf,
and thus became transgressors.
52 Yet after that We pardoned
you, so that you might be grateful.
53 Remember when We gave
Moses the Scripture, and the
criterion [to distinguish between
right and wrong], so that you
might be guided. 54 When Moses
said to his people, 'O my people,
you have indeed wronged
yourselves by worshipping the
calf; turn in repentance to your
Creator and slay [the culprits]
among you. That course is best
for you in the sight of your
Maker.' He relented towards you.
He is the Forgiving One, the
Merciful. 55 Remember when you
said, 'Moses, we will not believe
in you until we see God with our
own eyes,' a thunderbolt struck
you while you were looking on.
56 Then We brought you back to
life after your death, so that you
might be grateful. 57 Then We

caused the clouds to provide
shade for you and sent down for
you manna and quails, saying,
'Eat the good things We have
provided for you.' Indeed, they
did not wrong Us, but they
wronged themselves.
58 Remember when We said,
'Enter this land and eat freely
wherever you will. Make your
way through the gates, bowing
down and saying, "God! Forgive
us our sins." We shall forgive
you your sins and We shall give
abundance to those who do
good.' 59 But the wrongdoers
changed the words to something
other than what they had been
told. So We sent down upon the
transgressors a punishment from
heaven, because they were
disobedient. 60 When Moses
prayed for water for his people,
We said to him, 'Strike the rock
with your staff!' And there
gushed out from it twelve
springs. Each tribe knew its
drinking-place. [We said], 'Eat
and drink what God has provided
and do not act wrongfully in the
land, spreading corruption.'
61 When you said, 'Moses, we
cannot bear to eat only one kind
of food, so pray to your Lord to
bring forth for us some of the
earth's produce, its herbs and
cucumbers, its garlic, lentils,
and onions.' He said, 'Would
you take a lesser thing in
exchange for what is better? Go
to some town and there you will
find all that you demand.'
Abasement and destitution were
stamped upon them, and they
incurred the wrath of God, for
having rejected His signs, and
they killed His prophets unjustly,
because they were rebels and
transgressors.
62 The believers, the Jews, the
Christians, and the Sabaeans—
all those who believe in God and
the Last Day and do good
deeds—will be rewarded by their
Lord; they shall have no fear, nor
shall they grieve.
63 [Children of Israel], We
made a covenant with you and
raised the mountain high above
you, saying, 'Hold fast to what
We have given you and bear its
contents in mind, so that you

may guard yourselves [against evil].' 64 Yet after that you turned away, and but for God's grace and mercy, you would have surely been among the losers. 65 You are aware of those who transgressed in the matter of the Sabbath, whereupon We said to them, 'Be as apes, despised!' 66 We made their fate an example to their own generation and to those who followed them and a lesson to those who fear God.

67 When Moses said to his people, 'God commands you to sacrifice a heifer,' they said, 'Are you making a mockery of us?' He answered, 'God forbid that I should be so ignorant!' 68 They said, 'Ask your Lord to make it clear to us what sort of heifer she should be.' He answered, 'God says she should be neither too old nor too young, but in between, so do as you are commanded.' 69 They said, 'Call on your Lord for us, to show us what colour she should be.' He answered, 'God says she should be a bright yellow heifer, pleasing to the eye.' 70 They said, 'Ask your Lord to make it clear to us the exact type of heifer she should be, for to us all heifers look alike. If God wills, we shall be rightly guided.' 71 Moses answered, 'Your Lord says, she should be a heifer which has not been yoked to plough the land or water the fields, a heifer free from any blemish.' 'Now you have told us the truth,' they answered, and they sacrificed it, though they would rather not have done it. 72 Then, when you [Israelites] killed someone and started to blame one another—God brought to light what you concealed—73 We said, 'Strike [the corpse] with a part of it.' Thus God restores the dead to life and shows you His signs, so that you may understand.

74 Then your hearts became as hard as rock or even harder: for, there are rocks from which streams gush forth; and, there are some that cleave asunder and water flows out from them, while others fall down for fear of God. God is not unaware of what you do.

75 Do you then hope that they

will believe in you when some of them have already heard the word of God and then, after having understood it, they knowingly perverted it? [76] When they meet the faithful, they say, 'We are believers.' But when alone, they say to each other, 'Must you tell them what God has revealed to us? They will only use it to argue against you before your Lord! Have you no sense?' [77] Do they not know that God knows all that they conceal and all that they disclose?

[78] There are among them unlettered people who have no real knowledge of the Scriptures, knowing only their own wishful thinking and following only conjecture. [79] Woe to those who write the scripture with their own hands, and then declare, 'This is from God,' in order to sell it for a paltry price. Woe to them because of what their own hands have written, and woe to them for what they have earned. [80] They say, 'The Fire is not going to touch us, and [even if it does], it will only be for a few days!' Say [to them], 'Have you received a promise from God—for God never breaks His promise—or do you attribute something to God which you do not know?' [81] Truly, those who do evil and are encompassed by their misdeeds, shall be the inmates of the Fire. Therein they shall abide forever, [82] but those who believe and do good works are the heirs of Paradise; there they shall abide forever.

[83] Remember when We made a covenant with the Children of Israel, 'Worship none but God and be good to your parents and to relatives and orphans and the needy. And speak kindly to people. Attend to your prayers and pay the *zakat* [prescribed alms].' But with the exception of a few, you turned away [in aversion] and paid no heed.

[84] When We made a covenant with you, We said, 'You shall not shed each other's blood, nor turn your people out of their homes.' You consented to this and bore witness. [85] Yet, here you are, slaying one another and driving

some of your own people from
their homelands, aiding one
another against them, committing
sin and aggression; but if they
came to you as captives, you
would ransom them. Surely their
very expulsion was unlawful for
you. Do you believe in one part
of the Book and deny another
part of it? Those of you who act
thus shall be rewarded with
disgrace in this world and with a
severe punishment on the Day of
Resurrection. God is never
unaware of what you do. 86 Such
are they who buy the life of this
world at the price of the
Hereafter. Their punishment
shall not be lightened for them,
nor shall they be helped.

87 To Moses We gave the
Book and sent a succession of
messengers after him. We gave
Jesus, son of Mary, clear signs
and strengthened him with the
Holy Spirit. But, whenever a
messenger came to you with
something which you did not
desire, you grew arrogant, calling
some liars and slaying others.
88 They say, 'Our hearts are
impenetrably wrapped [against
whatever you say],' but God has
rejected them for their denial;
they have but little faith.

89 And now that a Book
has come to them from God,
fulfilling that [predictions about
the final prophet in their
scriptures] which is with them,
they deny it—whereas previously
they used to pray for victory
against the disbelievers—yet
when there came to them that
which they recognized as the
truth, they rejected it. God's
rejection is the due of all who
deny the truth. 90 What they have
sold their souls for is evil: to the
denial of God's own revelation,
grudging that He should reveal
His bounty to whom He chooses
from among His servants! They
have incurred wrath upon wrath.
Humiliating punishment awaits
those who deny the truth.

91 When they are told, 'Believe
in what God has revealed,' they
say, 'We believe in what was
revealed to us,' while they deny
the truth in what has been sent
down after that, even though it is

the Truth, confirming that which
they already have. Say, 'Why did
you kill God's prophets in the
past, if you were true believers?
92 Moses came to you with clear
signs, but in his absence you
worshipped the calf and became
wrongdoers.' 93 When We made
a covenant with you and raised
the mountain above you saying,
'Hold firmly to what We have
given you and listen,' you said,
'We hear, but we disobey,' and
their hearts were filled with the
love of the calf, because of their
refusal to acknowledge the truth.
Say, 'Evil is that to which your
faith enjoins you if you are indeed
believers.' 94 Say, 'If God's abode
of the Hereafter is for you alone,
to the exclusion of all others,
then wish for death, if you are
truthful.' 95 But they will never
wish for death, because of what
their own hands have sent on
before them; God is fully aware
of the wrongdoers. 96 You will
find them clinging to life more
eagerly than any other people,
even the polytheists. Any of them
would wish to be given a life of
a thousand years, though even
such a long life would not save
them from [Our] punishment;
and God sees all that they do.

97 Say, 'Anyone who is an
enemy of Gabriel—who by
God's leave has brought down to
your heart [the Quran] fulfilling
that [predictions about the last
prophet in the earlier revelations]
which precedes it, and is a
guidance and good news for the
faithful—98 whoever is an enemy
of God, His angels, or His
messengers, or of Gabriel or
Michael, will surely find that
God too is the enemy of those
who deny the truth.' 99 We have
sent down clear signs to you and
no one will reject them except
the wicked. 100 Why is it that,
whenever they make a covenant,
some of them cast it aside?
Most of them do not believe.
101 Whenever a messenger from
God has come to them, fulfilling
that [predictions] which they
already had, some of those to
whom the Book was given have cast
off the Book of God behind their
backs as if they had no knowledge.

[102] They pursued what the devils falsely attributed to the kingdom of Solomon. Solomon was not an unbeliever: it is the devils who are unbelievers. They taught people witchcraft, and that which was sent down to Harut and Marut, the two angels in Babylon. But these two taught no one until they had said, ‘We are but a trial, therefore, do not disbelieve [in God’s guidance].’ So men learnt from them that by which they caused discord between man and wife; but they harmed no one thereby, except by the command of God; [on the contrary], these people learned that which would harm them and do them no good, knowing full well that whoever acquired [this knowledge] would have no share in the Hereafter. Evil indeed was the [price] for which they sold their souls, if only they had known it. [103] And had they but believed and been mindful of God, His reward would have been far better for them, if they had but known it.

[104] Believers, do not say to the Prophet, *‘Ra‘ina’* but say, *‘Unzurna,’* and listen to him with attention.[a] For those who deny the truth, there is a painful punishment. [105] They who deny the truth from among the People of the Book, or from among those who associate partners with God, do not desire that any good should be sent down to you from your Lord. But God singles out for His grace whom He wills—for God is limitless in His great bounty. [106] If We abrogate a verse or cause it to be forgotten, We will replace it by a better one or one similar to it. Do you not know that God has power over all things? [107] Do you not know that the kingdom of the heavens and the earth belongs to God alone? And that there is no protector or helper for you

---

[a] Some people would sit in the Prophet’s company and, by playing on words, make a mockery of his teachings. For instance, instead of using the unambiguous Arabic word for ‘May we have your attention’—‘*unzurna*’—they would say ‘*ra‘ina*’, meaning ‘our shepherd’.

besides God? 108 Do you [all] want to question your messenger just as Moses was questioned previously? Anyone who exchanges faith for unbelief has strayed from the right path.

109 Many among the People of the Book wish, through envy, to lead you back to unbelief, now that you have embraced the faith and the truth has been made plain to them. But you should pardon them and bear with them until God gives His command. Truly, God has power over all things. 110 Attend to your prayers and pay the prescribed alms; any good you store up for yourselves, you will find it with God. Certainly, God sees what you do. 111 They declare, ‘None shall ever enter Heaven unless he be a Jew or a Christian.’ This is their own wishful thinking. [Prophet], say, ‘Produce your evidence if you are telling the truth.’ 112 Indeed, those who submit themselves to God and act righteously shall be rewarded by their Lord: they shall have no fear, nor shall they grieve.

113 The Jews say, ‘The Christians have no ground to stand on,’ and the Christians say, ‘The Jews have no ground to stand on.’ Yet they both recite the Book, and those who have no knowledge say the same; God will judge between them on the Day of Resurrection concerning their disputes. 114 Who could be more wicked than someone who prevents God’s name from being mentioned in His places of worship, and seeks to bring about their ruin, while it behoves these men to enter them with fear in their hearts? There is disgrace in store for them in this world and a great punishment in the next. 115 The East and the West belong to God. Whichever way you turn, there is the Face of God. God is all pervading and all knowing. 116 They say, ‘God has taken a son.’ Glory be to Him! Everything in the heavens and the earth belongs to Him; all things are obedient to Him. 117 He is the Originator of the heavens and the earth, and when He decrees something, He says only, ‘Be!’ and it is.

118 Those who are devoid of
knowledge say, ‘Why does God
not speak to us or show us a
sign?’ The same demand was
made by those before them; their
hearts are all alike. We have
made the signs clear to those
whose faith is firm. 119 We have
sent you with the truth, bearing
good news and giving warning.
You will not be held accountable
for the people of the Fire.
120 Neither the Christians nor the
Jews will be pleased with you
until you follow their ways. Say,
‘God’s guidance is the only true
guidance.’ If you followed their
desires after the knowledge
which has come to you, you
would not have any patron or
supporter against God. 121 Those
whom We have given this Book
follow it as it ought to be
followed; it is they who [truly]
believe in it; those who deny it
will be the losers.

122 Children of Israel,
remember My favour which I
have bestowed upon you, and
how I preferred you above all
other people; 123 and fear a Day
when no human being shall avail
another. Nor shall ransom be
accepted from any of them, nor
shall intercession be of any use
to them, and none shall be
succoured. 124 When his Lord
tested Abraham with certain
commands and he fulfilled them,
He said, ‘I will make you a
leader of men.’ Abraham asked,
‘And what of my descendants?’
He answered, ‘My covenant does
not extend to the transgressors.’

125 And We made the House
[the Ka‘bah] a place of assembly
and a sanctuary for mankind,
[saying], ‘Make the place where
Abraham stood a place of
worship.’ We commanded
Abraham and Ishmael, ‘Purify
My House for those who walk
round it, those who stay there for
devotion, and those who bow
down and prostrate themselves.’
126 And when Abraham prayed,
‘My Lord, make this city a city
of peace, and provide its
inhabitants with fruits, such of
them as believe in God and the
Last Day.’ God said, ‘As for
those who deny the truth, I will

grant them benefits for a short
while and then subject them to
the punishment of the Fire—an
evil destination.’
127 And when Abraham and
Ishmael were laying the
foundations of the House, [they
prayed], ‘Our Lord, accept this
from us; for You are All Hearing,
All Knowing. 128 Lord, make us
submissive to You; make of our
descendants a nation that will
submit to You. Teach us our rites
of worship and turn to us with
mercy; You are the Forgiving
One and the Merciful. 129 Our
Lord, send forth to them a
messenger of their own to recite
Your revelations to them, to teach
them the Scripture and wisdom,
and purify them. You are the
Mighty, the Wise One.’
130 Who but a foolish man
would turn away from the
religion of Abraham? We chose
him in this world, and in the
Hereafter he shall be among the
righteous. 131 When his Lord said
to him, ‘Surrender!’ he
responded, ‘I have surrendered
to the Lord of the Universe,’
132 and Abraham enjoined his
sons to do the same, as did
Jacob, ‘My sons, God has chosen
this religion for you; so do not
let death overtake you, except
when you are in a state of
submission.’ 133 Were you present
when Jacob faced the hour of
death and he asked his sons,
‘Who will you worship after
me?’ They answered, ‘We will
worship your God and the God
of your fathers, Abraham and
Ishmael and Isaac: the one God;
we have submitted ourselves to
Him.’ 134 Those were a people
that have passed away; what
they did is theirs and what you
have done is yours. You will not
be answerable for their deeds.
135 They say, ‘Be Jews or
Christians, and you shall be
rightly guided.’ Say, ‘By no
means! We believe in the faith of
Abraham, who was ever inclined
[to God]; he was not one of
those who set up partners with
God.’ 136 Say, ‘We believe in
God and what was revealed to
us; and what was revealed to
Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob,

and their descendants, and what
was given to Moses and Jesus
and what was given to the [other]
prophets by their Lord. We make
no distinction between any of
them. It is to Him that we
surrender ourselves.’ 137 If they
believe as you have believed,
then are they rightly guided; but
if they turn back, then know that
they are entrenched in hostility.
God will surely suffice to defend
you against them, for He is All
Hearing, All Knowing. 138 We
take on God’s own dye. Who has
a better dye than God’s? We
worship Him alone. 139 Say, ‘Do
you dispute with us about God,
while He is our Lord and your
Lord? We have our actions and
you have your actions. We are
devoted to Him alone. 140 Do
you claim that Abraham and
Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and
their descendants were all Jews
or Christians?’ Say, ‘Do you
know better or does God? And
who could be more unjust than
one who conceals a testimony
given to him by God? God is not
unaware of what you do.’
141 Those were a people that have
passed away; theirs is what they
did and yours what you
have done. You shall not be
answerable for their deeds.

142 The foolish will ask, ‘What
has made them turn away from
their direction of prayer which
they used to face?’ Say, ‘The
East and the West belong to
God. He guides whom He pleases
to the right path.’ 143 Thus We
have made you a middle nation,
so that you may act as witnesses
for mankind, and the Messenger
may be a witness for you. We
decreed your former prayer
direction towards which you used
to face only in order that We
might make a clear distinction
between the Messenger’s true
followers and those who were to
turn their backs on him. This
was indeed a hard test for all but
those whom God has guided.
God will never let your faith go
to waste. God is compassionate
and merciful to mankind.

144 We have frequently seen
you turn your face towards
heaven. So We will make you

turn in a direction for prayer that will please you. So turn your face now towards the Sacred Mosque: and wherever you may be, turn your faces towards it. Those who were given the Book know this to be the truth from their Lord. God is not unaware of what they do. 145 But even if you should produce every kind of sign for those who have been given the Book, they would never accept your prayer direction, nor would you accept their prayer direction: nor would any of them accept one another's direction. If, after all the knowledge you have been given, you yield to their desires, then, you shall surely become a transgressor. 146 Those to whom We have given the Book recognize it just as they recognize their own sons. But, some of them knowingly conceal the truth. 147 Truth is what comes from your Lord; therefore, do not be of those who doubt.

148 Each community has its own direction in which it turns: vie, then, with one another in doing good works. Wherever you may be, God will bring you all before Him. God has power over all things. 149 Wherever you set out from, turn your face in the direction of the Sacred Mosque—this is the truth from your Lord: He is not unaware of what you do—150 wherever you come from, turn your face to the Sacred Mosque; wherever you may be, turn your faces towards it, so that people will not have any argument against you except for the wrongdoers among them. Do not fear them; fear Me, so that I may perfect My favour to you and you may be rightly guided. 151 Thus We have sent among you a Messenger of your own to recite Our revelations to you, purify you and teach you the Book and wisdom, and to teach you what you did not know. 152 So remember Me; I will remember you. Be thankful to Me and do not be ungrateful.

153 You who believe, seek help through patience and prayer; surely, God is with the steadfast. 154 Do not say that those who are killed in God's cause are dead;

they are alive, but you are not
aware of it. 155 We shall certainly
test you with fear and hunger,
and loss of property, lives and
crops. Give good news to those
who endure with fortitude.
156 Those who say, when afflicted
with a calamity, ‘We belong to
God and to Him we shall return,’
157 are the ones who will have
blessings and mercy from their
Lord: it is they who are on the
right path!

158 Safa and Marwah are
among the symbols set up by
God; there is nothing wrong if
anyone goes on a pilgrimage to
the House, or performs a minor
pilgrimage, in walking to and fro
between them. Of anyone who
does good of his own accord,
God is appreciative, and aware.
159 Those who conceal the
evidence of the truth and the
guidance We have revealed, after
We have made them clear to
people in the Scripture, will be
rejected by God and so do others.
160 But from those who repent
and mend their ways and make
known the truth, I will certainly
accept their repentance: I am
the Ever Relenting, the Most
Merciful. 161 Those who deny
the truth, and die as deniers, on
them shall be the curse of God
and of angels and of men
altogether. 162 Under it they shall
remain forever; their punishment
shall not be lightened, nor shall
they be granted respite.

163 Your God is one God. There
is no deity save Him. He is the
Compassionate, the Merciful.
164 In the creation of the heavens
and the earth; in the alternation
of night and day; in the ships that
sail the ocean bearing cargoes
beneficial to man; in the water
which God sends down from the
sky and with which He revives
the earth after its death, scattering
over it all kinds of animals; in
the courses of the winds, and in
the clouds pressed into service
between earth and sky, there are
indeed signs for people who use
their reason.

165 Yet there are some who set
up equals with God and adore
them with the adoration due to
God, but those who believe love

God most. If only the wrongdoers
could see—as they will see when
they face the punishment—that
all power belongs to God, and
that God is severe in punishment.
166 When they face their
punishment, those who have
been followed will disown their
followers, and all their ties shall
be cut asunder, 167 those who
followed will say, ‘If we could
only return to the world, we
would disown them as they have
disowned us.’ God will thus show
them their actions as a cause of
bitter regret and remorse. They
shall never emerge from the Fire.

168 O mankind, eat whatever is
lawful and wholesome on the
earth; and do not follow in the
footsteps of Satan; for he is
indeed your avowed enemy.
169 He bids you only to do evil
and to commit deeds of
abomination and to attribute to
God something of which you
have no knowledge. 170 But when
they are told, ‘Follow what God
has sent down,’ they answer,
‘We will follow the ways of our
fathers,’ even though their fathers
did not use their reason, and
were devoid of all guidance.
171 Those who deny the truth are
like animals which hear nothing
in your call but the sound of a
voice, without understanding its
meaning. They are deaf, dumb
and blind. They understand
nothing.

172 Believers, eat the
wholesome things which We
have provided for you and give
thanks to God, if it is Him you
worship. 173 He has forbidden
you only carrion, blood, and the
flesh of swine; also any flesh
that is consecrated other than in
the name of God. But for one
who is driven by necessity,
neither craving nor transgressing,
it is no sin. For God is forgiving
and merciful. 174 Those who
conceal any part of the Scriptures
which God has revealed in order
to gain some paltry end, simply
fill their bellies with Fire. On the
Day of Resurrection, God will
neither speak to them nor purify
them. They will have a painful
punishment. 175 Those are the
ones who have taken error in

exchange for guidance and punishment for forgiveness. How little do they seem to fear the Fire! 176 That is because God has sent down the Book with the truth. And those who pursue differences in the Scriptures go much too far in dissension.

177 Virtue does not consist in whether you face towards the East or the West; virtue means believing in God, the Last Day, the angels, the Book and the prophets; the virtuous are those who, despite their love for it, give away their wealth to their relatives and to orphans and the very poor, and to travellers and those who ask [for charity], and to set slaves free, and who attend to their prayers and pay the alms, and who keep their pledges when they make them, and show patience in hardship and adversity, and in times of distress. Such are the true believers; and such are the God-fearing.

178 Believers, retribution is prescribed for you in cases of murder: the free man for the free man, the slave for the slave, the female for the female. If the offender is granted some remission by the heir of the slain person, the agreed penalty should be equitably exacted and should be discharged in a handsome manner. This is an alleviation from your Lord and an act of grace. He who transgresses after this shall have a painful punishment. 179 In [this law of] retribution there is life for you, O people of understanding, so that perhaps you will be mindful of God. 180 It is prescribed that when death approaches any of you and he is leaving behind wealth, he shall make a will in favour of his parents and relatives equitably. This is a duty for all who fear God. 181 Anyone who alters it once he has heard it shall be accountable for his crime. Surely, God is all hearing and all knowing. 182 But if anyone apprehends partiality or an injustice on the part of a testator, it shall be no sin for him to bring about a settlement between the parties. God is forgiving and merciful.

183 Believers, fasting has been
prescribed for you, just as it was
prescribed for those before you,
so that you may guard yourselves
against evil. 184 Fast for a
specified number of days, but if
any one among you is ill or on a
journey, let him fast the same
number of days later. For those
who can fast only with extreme
difficulty, there is a way to
compensate—the feeding of a
needy person. But he who does
good of his own accord shall be
well rewarded; but to fast is
better for you, if you only knew.
185 The month of Ramadan is the
month when the Quran was sent
down as guidance for mankind
with clear proofs of guidance
and the criterion by which to
distinguish right from wrong.
Therefore, whoever of you is
present in that month, let him
fast; but he who is ill or on a
journey shall fast a similar
number of days later on. God
desires ease for you, not hardship.
He desires you to fast the whole
month, so that you may glorify
Him for His having guided you
and so that you may be grateful
to Him.
186 When My servants ask you
about Me, say that I am near. I
respond to the call of one who
calls, whenever he calls to Me:
let them, then, respond to Me,
and believe in Me, so that they
may be rightly guided. 187 It has
been made lawful for you to go
to your wives on the night of the
fast: they are like a garment for
you, and you are like a garment
for them. God is aware that you
were deceiving yourselves and
He has turned in mercy towards
you and pardoned you. So you
may now consort with them and
seek what God has ordained for
you. Eat and drink until the
white thread of dawn becomes
distinct from the black. Then
resume the fast until nightfall,
and do not approach them during
the nights of your devotional
retreat in the mosques. These are
the limits set by God, so do not
approach them. Thus He makes
clear His commandments to
mankind, so that they may guard
themselves [against evil]. 188 Do

not consume one another's
property by unjust means,
nor offer it as a bribe to the
authorities, so that you may
deliberately and wrongfully
devour a part of other people's
wealth.

189 They ask you about the
phases of the moon. Say, 'They
are a means of determining time
for the regulation of people's
affairs and for the pilgrimage.'
Piety does not consist in entering
your houses from the rear. Indeed,
one who guards himself against
evil out of fear of God is the
truly righteous one. Enter your
houses by their doors and be
mindful of God, so that you may
prosper. 190 And fight in God's
cause against those who wage
war against you, but do not
commit aggression—for surely,
God does not love aggressors.
191 Slay them wherever you find
them [those who fight against
you];[a] drive them out of the
places from which they drove
you, for [religious] persecution
is worse than killing. Do not
fight them at the Sacred Mosque
unless they fight you there. If
they do fight you, slay them—
such is the reward for those who
deny the truth—192 but if they
desist, then surely God is most
forgiving and merciful. 193 Fight
them until there is no more *fitna*
[religious persecution] and
religion belongs to God alone. If
they desist, then let there be
no hostility, except towards
aggressors.

194 A sacred month for a sacred
month: violation of sanctity calls
for fair retribution. Thus you
may exact retribution from
whoever transgresses against
you, in proportion to his
transgression. Fear God and
know that God is with those who
are mindful of Him. 195 Spend
for God's cause: but do not cast
yourselves into destruction by
your own hands. Do good, God
loves the doers of good.

196 Perform the Hajj and the
minor pilgrimage [*umrah*] for
the sake of God. If you are

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

prevented from doing so, then
make whatever offering you can
afford and do not shave your
heads until the offering has
reached the place of sacrifice.
But if any of you is ill, or has an
ailment of the head, he should
compensate by fasting or
almsgiving or sacrifice. In times
of peace, if any of you combines
the minor pilgrimage with the
Hajj, he should make whatever
offering he can afford, but if he
lacks the means, then let him fast
three days during the pilgrimage
and for seven days after his
return; that is, ten days in all.
That is incumbent upon anyone
whose family does not live near
the Sacred Mosque. Fear God
and know that God is severe in
punishment. 197 The pilgrimage
is in the appointed months.
Whoever intends to perform it
during them must abstain from
indecent speech, from all wicked
conduct, and from quarrelling
while on the pilgrimage.
Whatever good you may do, God
is aware of it. Make provision
for yourselves—but surely, the
best of all provision is God-
consciousness. Always be
mindful of Me, you that are
endowed with understanding.
198 You will be committing no
sin if [during the pilgrimage]
you seek to obtain any bounty
from your Lord. When you return
from Arafat, remember God at
the sacred place, and remember
Him as He has guided you.
Before this you were surely
astray. 199 Then press on from
where the pilgrims stream forth
and ask God's forgiveness. God
is ever forgiving and most
merciful. 200 When you have
performed the acts of worship
prescribed for you, celebrate the
praises of God as you celebrated
the praises of your fathers, or
even more fervently than that.
There are some who say, 'Our
Lord, give us abundance in this
world.' These shall have no share
in the world to come. 201 But
there are others who pray, 'Our
Lord, grant us good in this world
as well as good in the world to
come, and protect us from the
torment of the Fire.' 202 They

shall have a good share from what they have earned. God is swift in His reckoning. 203 Remember God during the appointed days; for one who hastens to leave in two days, it shall be no sin; and for one who stays on, it shall be no sin for him either. This is for one who fears God. Have fear of God, and know that you shall all be gathered before Him.

204 There are some men whose views on the affairs of this life may please you. They even call on God to witness whatever is in their heart, yet they are the most contentious of quarrellers. 205 When he turns away, he sets out to spread corruption in the land, destroying crops and cattle. God does not love corruption. 206 When he is told, ‘Have fear of God,’ he is seized by pride which drives him to wrongdoing. Hell shall be enough for him. A dreadful resting place. 207 But there are others who would dedicate themselves to seeking the pleasure of God. God is compassionate to His servants.

208 Believers, surrender yourselves totally to God, and do not follow in the footsteps of Satan; surely, he is your sworn enemy. 209 But if you lapse after the clear signs that have come to you, then know that God is mighty and wise. 210 Are they only waiting for God as well as the angels to come down to them under canopies of clouds, so that the matter will be settled? All things return to God. 211 Ask the Children of Israel how many clear signs We have given them. Anyone who changes God’s blessing once it has come to him will find God is stern in punishment. 212 The life of this world is made to appear attractive for those who deny the truth and they scoff at those who believe. But those who fear God shall be above them on the Day of Resurrection: God bestows His bounties on whoever He pleases without stinting.

213 Mankind was once a single community, [but then people developed differences], so God sent prophets to them as bearers

of good tidings and warning, and sent down with them the Book containing the truth, so that He might judge between their disputes. It was only those to whom it [the scripture] was given who disagreed about it after clear signs had come to them, because of rivalry between them. God by His will guided the believers to the truth about which the others had disputed. God guides whom He will to a straight path. 214 Do you think that you will enter Paradise without having suffered like those who passed away before you? Affliction and hardship befell them and so shaken were they that the Messenger and the believers with him would exclaim, ‘When will God’s help come?’ Surely the help of God is near.

215 They will ask you what they should spend on others. Say, ‘Whatever you give should be for parents, close relatives, orphans, the needy, and travellers. God is well aware of whatever good you do.’ 216 Fighting [in defence] is ordained for you, abhorent as it may be to you. You may dislike something although it is good for you, or like something although it is bad for you: God knows but you do not.

217 They ask you about fighting in the sacred month. Say, ‘To fight [in a sacred month] is a grave matter; but barring people from the path of God, to deny Him, and expelling people from the Sacred Mosque are far graver in His sight; and persecution is worse than killing.’ They will not stop fighting you until they make you renounce your faith, if they can. Whoever of you turns back from his faith and dies as a denier of the truth will have his deeds come to nothing in this world and the Hereafter, and he will be an inhabitant of the Fire, to abide therein forever. 218 But those who have believed, migrated, and striven for God’s cause, can look forward to God’s mercy: God is forgiving and merciful.

219 They ask you [Prophet]

about intoxicants and gambling. Say, 'There is great sin in both, although they have some benefit for people: but their harm is greater than their benefit.' They ask you what they should spend [in God's cause]. Say, 'Whatever is surplus to your needs.' Thus God makes His commandments clear to you so that you may reflect [220] upon this world and the Hereafter. They ask you about orphans. Say, 'Promotion of their welfare is an act of great goodness. There is no harm in your living together with them, for they are your brothers. God knows the mischief-maker from the reformer. If God had so willed, He would have afflicted you with hardship. Surely, God is mighty and wise.'

[221] Do not marry women who associate partners with God until they believe. A believing bondwoman is better than a woman who associates partners with God, however pleasing she may appear to you. Nor give believing women in marriage to men who associate partners with God, till they have believed; a believing bondman is certainly better than a man who associates partners with God, even though he may please you. Such people call you to Hell-fire; but God calls you to Paradise and to forgiveness. He makes His messages clear to people, so that they might bear them in mind. [222] They ask you about menstruation. Say, 'It is an impurity, so keep away from women during it and do not approach them until they are cleansed; when they are cleansed you may approach them as God has ordained. God loves those who turn to Him in penitence and He loves those who keep themselves clean. [223] Your wives are your fields. Go, then, into your fields as you will. Do good deeds, and fear God, and know that you shall meet Him.' Give good tidings to the believers.

[224] Do not make God a pretext, when you swear by Him, to avoid doing good, being righteous and making peace between people. God is all

hearing and all knowing. [225] God will not call you to account for any oaths you uttered unintentionally, but He will take you to task for what is intended in your hearts. God is most forgiving and forbearing. [226] For those who swear that they will not approach their wives, there shall be a waiting period of four months: if they revert to conciliation, surely, God is most forgiving and ever merciful; [227] but if they decide upon divorce, God is all hearing and all knowing. [228] Divorced women should wait for three menstrual cycles; it is unlawful for them, if they believe in God and the Last Day, to hide what God has created in their wombs. Their husbands have the right to take them back within that time, if they desire to be reconciled. The wives have rights corresponding to those which the husbands have, according to what is recognized to be fair, but men have a rank above them. God is almighty and all wise.

[229] Divorce may be pronounced twice, and then a woman must be retained honourably or released with kindness. It is not lawful for you to take away anything of what you have given your wives, unless both fear that they would not be able to observe the bounds set by God. In such a case it shall be no sin for either of them if the woman opts to give something for her release. These are the bounds set by God; do not transgress them. Those who transgress the bounds of God are wrongdoers. [230] And if man finally divorces his wife, he cannot remarry her until she has married another man. Then if the next husband divorces her, there will be no blame on either of them if the former husband and wife return to one another, provided they think that they can keep within the bounds set by God. These are the bounds prescribed by God, which He makes clear to men of understanding. [231] Once you divorce women, and they have reached the end of their waiting period, then either retain them in

all decency or part from them decently. Do not retain them in order to harm them or to wrong them. Whoever does this, wrongs his own soul. Do not make a mockery of God's revelations. Remember the favours God has bestowed upon you, and the Book and the wisdom He has revealed to exhort you. Fear God and know that God is aware of everything.

232 When you divorce women and they reach the end of their waiting period, do not prevent them from marrying other men, if they have come to an honourable agreement. This is enjoined on every one of you who believes in God and the Last Day; it is more wholesome and purer for you. God knows, but you do not know. 233 And the [divorced] mothers should nurse their children for two whole years, if they wish to complete the period of nursing; and during that period the father of the child shall be responsible for the maintenance of the mother in a reasonable manner. No soul is charged with more than it can bear. No mother should be made to suffer on account of her child, and no father should be made to suffer on account of his child. The same duties devolve upon the father's heir [in case of the death of the father]. But if, after consultation, they choose by mutual agreement to wean the child, there shall be no blame on them. Nor shall it be any offence for you if you desire to engage a wet-nurse for your children, provided you hand over what you have agreed to pay, in a reasonable manner. Have fear of God and know that God is observant of all your actions.

234 If any of you die and leave widows, the widows should wait for four months and ten days. When they have reached the end of their waiting period you will not be blamed for what they may reasonably choose to do with themselves: God is aware of what you do. 235 It shall be no offence for you to hint at a proposal of marriage [to divorced or widowed women] or to cherish them in your hearts. God knows

that you will bear them in mind. But do not enter into any secret arrangement with them, beyond conveying some indication to them of your inclination. Do not proceed with tying the marriage-knot before the end of their waiting period. Know that God has knowledge of all your thoughts. Therefore, take heed and bear in mind that God is forgiving and forbearing. [236] You will not be blamed [for not paying the dower money] if you divorce women when you have not yet consummated the marriage or fixed a dower money upon them, but make fair provision for them, the affluent according to his means and the straitened according to his means; this is binding on righteous men. [237] If you divorce them before the marriage is consummated, but after their dower money has been settled, give them the half of their dower money, unless they [the women] agree to forego it, or the man [the husband] in whose hand lies the marriage knot foregoes it. To forego is nearer to righteousness. Do not neglect any chance of behaving benevolently towards each other. God is observant of whatever you do.

[238] Be ever mindful of prayers, especially the middle prayer; and stand up before God in submissive devotion. [239] When you are exposed to danger, pray on foot or while riding; when you are safe again, remember God, for He has taught you what you did not know. [240] If any of you die and leave widows, make a bequest for them of a year's maintenance without causing them to leave their homes; but if they leave of their own accord, you will not be blamed for what they may reasonably choose to do with themselves. God is almighty and wise. [241] For divorced women a provision according to what is fair shall also be made. This is an obligation binding on the righteous. [242] Thus God makes His commandments clear to you, so that you may understand.

[243] Have you not seen those

who fled their homes in their thousands for fear of death, whereupon God said to them, 'Die!' and later brought them back to life? Surely God is bountiful to mankind, but most of them are ungrateful. 244 Fight [in defence] in God's cause and remember that He is all hearing and all knowing. 245 Who will give God a generous loan? He will multiply it many times over. It is God who withholds, and God who gives abundantly, and it is to Him that you shall all be returned.

246 Have you not heard of what the chiefs of the Children of Israel demanded of one of their prophets after Moses? They said, 'Appoint for us a king, and we will fight for the cause of God.' He replied, 'What if you refuse to fight, when ordered to do so?' 'Why should we not fight for the cause of God,' they replied, 'when we have been driven forth from our homes and our children?' But when at last they were commanded to fight, they all refused, except a few of them. God knows the wrongdoers. 247 Their prophet said to them, 'God has now appointed Talut to be your king.' But they replied, 'How can he be king over us when we are worthier of kingship than he and he has not even been granted an abundance of wealth?' He said, 'God has chosen him over you, and has given him great knowledge and physique. God grants kingship to whoever He pleases: God is magnanimous and all knowing.' 248 Their prophet also said to them, 'The sign of his kingship is that the Ark [of the Covenant] shall come to you. Therein shall be tranquillity from your Lord, and the relics which the House of Moses and the House of Aaron left behind. It will be borne by the angels. There is a sign in this for you, if you believe.'

249 When Talut set out with his forces, he said to them, 'God will test you with a river: whoever drinks from it is not with me and whoever does not drink is with me. There will, however, be no blame upon one who sips only a

handful from it.' But, except for a few of them, they all drank from it. When he and those who believed along with him had crossed the river, they said, 'We have no strength today against Goliath and his warriors.' But those of them who believed that they would meet God replied, 'Many a small group, by God's command has prevailed against a large group. God is indeed with the steadfast.' 250 When they met Goliath and his warriors, they said, 'Our Lord, bestow patience upon us, make us stand firm, and help us against those who deny the truth.' 251 And so by the command of God they defeated them. David killed Goliath, and God gave him kingship and wisdom, and imparted to him the knowledge of whatever He willed. Had it not been for God's repelling some people by means of others, the earth would have been filled with corruption. But God is bountiful to His creatures.

252 These are the revelations of God which We recite to you in all truth, for you are truly one of the messengers. 253 Of these messengers, We have given something additional among them. There are some to whom God spoke directly and others He exalted in rank. We gave Jesus, son of Mary clear signs, and strengthened him with the holy spirit. Had God pleased, those who succeeded them would not have fought against one another after the clear signs had come to them. But they disagreed among themselves; some believed, while others did not. Yet had God willed, they would not have fought against one another; but God does whatever He wills.

254 Believers, spend out of what We have given you, before the Day comes when there will be neither trading, friendship nor intercession. Truly, it is those who deny the truth who are the wrongdoers. 255 God: there is no deity save Him, the Living, the Eternal One. Neither slumber nor sleep overtakes Him. To Him belong whatsoever is in the

heavens and whatsoever is on the earth. Who can intercede with Him except by His permission? He knows all that is before them and all that is behind them. They can grasp only that part of His knowledge which He wills. His throne extends over the heavens and the earth; and their upholding does not weary Him. He is the Sublime, the Almighty One! 256 There shall be no compulsion in religion: true guidance has become distinct from error. But whoever refuses to be led by Satan and believes in God has grasped the strong handhold that will never break. God is all hearing and all knowing. 257 God is the patron of the faithful. He leads them from darkness to the light. As for those who deny the truth, their supporter is Satan, who brings them out of light into darkness. They are the heirs of the Fire, and there they will remain forever.

258 Have you not heard of him who argued with Abraham about his Lord because God had bestowed the kingdom upon him? Abraham said, 'My Lord is the one who gives life and brings death.' He answered, 'I [too] give life and bring death!' Abraham said, 'God brings up the sun from the east, so bring it up yourself from the west.' Then the disbeliever was confounded. God does not guide the wrongdoers.

259 Or of him who, when passing by a town the roofs of which had caved in, exclaimed, 'How will God restore it to life after its destruction?' Thereupon God caused him to die, and after a hundred years, brought him back to life. God asked, 'How long have you remained in this state?' He answered, 'I have remained a day or part of a day.' God said, 'No, you have remained in this state for a hundred years. Now look at your food and your drink; they have not rotted. Look at your ass. We will make you a sign to mankind. Look at the bones—how We set them together, then clothe them with flesh!' When it had all

become clear to him, he said, ‘Now I know that God has power over all things.’ 260 When Abraham said, ‘Show me, my Lord, how You revive the dead!’ God said, ‘Do you not believe?’ Abraham answered, ‘Yes, indeed I do believe, but just to reassure my heart.’ Then God said, ‘Take four birds, and train them to come back to you. Then place them separately on each hilltop, and call them: they will come flying to you. Know that God is almighty and wise.’

261 Those who spend their wealth for God’s cause may be compared to a grain of corn which sprouts into seven ears, with a hundred grains in each ear: for God grants manifold increase to whom He wills; God is infinite and all knowing. 262 Those who spend their wealth for God’s cause and do not follow their almsgiving with taunts and insults shall be rewarded by their Lord; they shall have no fear, nor shall they grieve. 263 A kind word and forgiveness is better than a charitable deed followed by hurtful words: God is self-sufficient and forbearing. 264 Believers, do not cancel out your charitable deeds with reminders and hurtful words, like one who spends his wealth only to be seen by people, and not believing in God and the Last Day. Such men are like a rock covered with earth: a shower falls upon it and leaves it hard and bare. They will gain nothing from their works. God does not guide those who deny the truth.

265 But those who spend their wealth in order to gain God’s approval, and to strengthen their souls are like a garden on elevated ground. When heavy rain falls on it, it doubles its produce; and if heavy rain does not fall, then light rain suffices. God sees what you do. 266 Would any of you, being a man well advanced in age with helpless children to support, like to have a garden of dates and grapes, watered by rivers and containing all kinds of fruits, stricken by a fiery whirlwind and utterly scorched? Thus God makes His

signs clear to you, so that you may reflect.

267 Believers, give charitably from the good things which you have earned and what We produce for you from the earth; not worthless things which you yourselves would only reluctantly accept. Know that God is self-sufficient and praiseworthy. 268 Satan threatens you with the prospect of poverty and commands you to do foul deeds. But God promises His forgiveness and His bounty. God is bountiful and all knowing. 269 He grants wisdom to whom He will; and whoever is granted wisdom has indeed been granted abundant wealth. Yet none bear this in mind except those endowed with understanding.

270 Whatever you spend and whatever vows you make are known to God, but the wrongdoers shall have no helpers. 271 If you give charity openly, it is good, but if you keep it secret and give to the needy in private, that is better for you, and it will atone for some of your bad deeds. God is aware of all that you do. 272 It is not your responsibility to make them follow the right path; God guides whomever He pleases. Whatever wealth you spend is to your own benefit, provided that you spend only to seek the favour of God. Whatever wealth you spend [for God's cause] shall be repaid to you in full and you shall not be wronged. 273 The needy, who are too engrossed in God's cause to be able to travel about the land in search of a livelihood, are considered by those who are unaware of their condition to be free from want, because they refrain from begging. But they can be known from their appearance. They do not make insistent demands upon people. Whatever wealth you spend, God knows it. 274 Those who spend their wealth night and day, both privately and publicly, will receive their reward from their Lord. They shall have no fear, nor shall they grieve.

275 Those who live on usury shall rise up before God

like men whom Satan has demented by his touch; for they say, 'Buying and selling is only a kind of usury.' But God has made trade lawful and made usury unlawful. Therefore, he who desists because of the admonition that has come to him from his Lord may retain what he has received in the past; and it will be for God to judge him. Those who revert to it shall be the inmates of the Fire; they shall abide therein forever. 276 God blights usury and blesses charitable deeds. God does not love the ungrateful wrongdoer. 277 Those who believe, do good deeds, attend to their prayers and engage in almsgiving, shall be rewarded by their Lord and shall have no fear, nor shall they grieve.

278 Believers, have fear of God, and give up what is still due to you from usury, if you are true believers. 279 For, if you do not do so, then know that you are at war with God and His Messenger. But if you repent, you may retain your capital. Do not wrong [others] and you will not be wronged. 280 If the debtor is in straitened circumstances, then grant him respite till a time of ease. If you were to write it off as an act of charity, that would be better for you, if only you knew. 281 Fear the Day when you shall be made to return to God; then every soul shall be paid in full what it has earned; and they shall not be wronged.

282 Believers, when you contract a debt for a stated term, put it down in writing; have a scribe write it down with fairness between you. No scribe should refuse to write: let him write as God has taught him, let the debtor dictate, and let him fear God, his Lord, and not diminish [the debt] at all. If the debtor is weak in mind or body, or unable to dictate, then in fairness let his guardian dictate for him. Call in two of your men as witnesses. But if two men cannot be found, then call one man and two women out of those you approve of as witnesses, so that if one of the two women should forget the

other can remind her. Let the witnesses not refuse when they are summoned. Do not be disinclined to write down your debts, be they small or large, together with the date of payment. This is more just in the sight of God; it is more reliable as testimony, and more likely to prevent doubts arising between you, unless it be ready merchandise which you give or take from hand to hand, then it will not be held against you for not writing it down. Have witnesses present whenever you trade with one another, and let no harm be done to either scribe or witness, for if you did cause them harm, it would be a crime on your part. Be mindful of God; He teaches you: He has full knowledge of everything. [283] If you are on a journey and do not find any literate person, something should be handed over as security. If one of you entrusts another with something, let the trustee restore the pledge to its owner; and let him fear God, his Lord. Do not conceal testimony. If someone does conceal it, in his heart he commits a crime. God knows what you do.

[284] All that the heavens and the earth contain belongs to God, whether you disclose what is in your minds or keep it hidden. God will bring you to account for it. He will forgive whom He will and punish whom He pleases: He has power over all things. [285] The Messenger believes in what has been sent down to him from his Lord, and [so do] believers. They all believe in God and His angels, His scriptures, and His messengers. They say, 'We do not differentiate between any of His messengers. We hear and obey. Grant us Your forgiveness, Lord, to You we shall all return!' [286] God does not charge a soul with more than it can bear. It shall be requited for whatever good and whatever evil it has done. [They pray], 'Our Lord, do not take us to task if we forget or make a mistake! Our Lord, do not place on us a burden like the one You placed on those before us!

Our Lord, do not place on us a burden we have not the strength to bear! Pardon us; and forgive us; and have mercy on us. You are our Lord and Sustainer, so help us against those who deny the truth.'

3. THE FAMILY OF 'IMRAN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Alif Lam Mim*

2 God! There is no deity save
Him, the Living, the Sustainer.
3 He has sent down the Book to
you with truth, which fulfils [the
predictions] in the Scriptures that
preceded it: He sent down the
Torah and the Gospel 4 in the
past as guidance for mankind;
He has [also] sent down the
Standard by which to discern the
true from the false. Surely those
who deny God's signs will suffer
severe punishment. God is
mighty and capable of
retribution. 5 Nothing on earth or
in the heavens is hidden from
God: 6 it is He who shapes you in
the womb as He will. There is no
deity save Him, the Mighty, the
Wise One.

7 It is He who has sent down
the Book to you. Some of its
verses are clear and precise in
meaning—they are the basis of
the Book—while others are
allegorical. Those with deviation
in their hearts pursue the
allegorical, so as to create
dissension by seeking to explain
it: but no one knows its meaning
except God. Those who are
firmly grounded in knowledge
say, 'We believe in it: it is all
from our Lord.' But only the
wise take heed. 8 'Our Lord, do
not let our hearts deviate after
You have guided us. Bestow
upon us Your mercy. Surely You
are a Munificent Giver. 9 Our
Lord, You will surely gather all
mankind on the Day of
whose coming there is no doubt.

God never fails to fulfill His
promise.’
10 As for those who deny the
truth, their wealth and children
will not help them against God.
They will be fuel for the Fire.
11 Their end will be like Pharaoh’s
people and those before them;
they denied Our signs, so God
seized them in their sinfulness:
God is stern in punishment.
12 Say to those who deny the
truth, ‘You shall be overcome
and driven into Hell—an evil
resting place!’ 13 There was a
sign for you in the two groups
which met face to face [at Badr],
one party fighting for the cause
of God and the other made up of
those who deny the truth. The
faithful saw with their own eyes
that the others were twice their
number: but God strengthens
with His succour whom He wills.
In this, there is indeed a lesson
for all who have eyes to see.
14 The satisfaction of worldly
desires through women, and
children, and heaped-up treasures
of gold and silver, and pedigreed
horses, and cattle and lands is
attractive to people. All this is
the provision of the worldly life;
but the most excellent abode is
with God. 15 Say, ‘Shall I tell you
of something better than all of
these? For the God-fearing, there
are Gardens in nearness to their
God with rivers flowing through
them where they shall live forever
with pure spouses and the
goodwill of God. God is
watching His servants —16 those
who say, “Lord, we believe in
You, forgive us our sins and
keep us from the punishment of
the Fire,” 17 those who are
steadfast, truthful, obedient, and
those who spend [for God’s
cause] and who pray before dawn
for forgiveness.’
18 God bears witness that there
is no deity save Him, as do the
angels and those who possess
knowledge. He is the upholder
of justice. There is no diety save
Him, the Mighty, the Wise One.
19 The only true religion in God’s
sight is complete submission to
God. And those who were given
the Book disagreed only out of
rivalry, after knowledge had been

given to them—he who denies
God's signs should know that
God is swift in His reckoning.
20 If they dispute with you, say, 'I
have submitted my whole being
to God and so have those who
follow me.' And ask those who
have been given the Book, as
well as the unlettered, 'Do you
submit yourselves to God in the
same way?' If they submit
themselves to Him, they are on
the right path; but if they turn
away, your duty is only to convey
the message. God is observant of
all His servants. 21 Those who
deny God's signs and kill the
prophets unjustly and kill those
who enjoin justice—give them
warning of a woeful
punishment— 22 their deeds will
come to nothing in this world as
well as in the hereafter; they will
have no supporters.

23 Have you not seen those
who received a portion of the
Book? When they are invited to
accept the judgement of God's
Book, a group of them turns
away in aversion. 24 That is
because they say, 'The Fire will
touch us only for a limited
number of days.' Thus the false
beliefs which they have invented
have deluded them in the matter
of their religion. 25 How will it
be when We gather them all
together upon a Day which is
sure to come, when every human
being shall be repaid in full for
what he has done? They will not
be wronged. 26 Say, 'Lord,
sovereign of all sovereignty. You
bestow sovereignty on whom
you will and take it away from
whom You please; You exalt
whoever You will and abase
whoever You will. All that is
good lies in Your hands. You
have the power to will anything.
27 You cause the night to pass
into the day, and the day into the
night; You bring forth the living
from the lifeless and the lifeless
from the living. You give without
measure to whom You will.'

28 Let not the believers take
those who deny the truth for
their allies in preference to the
believers—anyone who does that
will isolate himself completely
from God—unless it be to protect

yourselves against them in this
way.[a] God admonishes you to
fear Him: for, to God shall all
return. 29 Say, ‘God knows
everything that is in your heart,
whether you conceal it or reveal
it; He knows everything that the
heavens and earth contain; God
has power over all things.’ 30 On
the Day when every human being
will find himself faced with all
the good that he has done, and
with all the evil that he has done,
many will wish that there were a
long space of time between
himself and that [Day]. God
admonishes you to fear Him, but
God is compassionate towards
His servants. 31 Say, ‘If you love
God, follow me and God will
love you and forgive you your
sins. God is most forgiving, and
most merciful.’ 32 Say, ‘Obey
God and the Messenger,’ and if
they turn away, God does not
love those who deny the truth.

33 God chose Adam and Noah
and the family of Abraham and
the family of ‘Imran above all
His creatures. 34 They are the
offspring of one another. God
hears all and knows all.
35 Remember when the wife of
‘Imran said, ‘My Lord, I have
dedicated what is in my womb
entirely to Your service. So
accept this from me. You are the
One who hears and knows all.’
36 When she gave birth, she said,
‘My Lord, I have given birth to
a girl’—God knew very well
what she had given birth to: a
male is not like a female—‘I
have named her Mary and placed
her and her children in Your
protection from the rejected
Satan.’ 37 Her Lord graciously
accepted her and made her grow
in goodness and entrusted her to
the care of Zachariah. Every
time Zachariah visited her in her
chamber he found some
provision with her. He asked,
‘Mary, where did this provision
come from?’ She replied,

---

[a] A believer treats all human beings with justice and fairness, without differentiating between Muslims and non-Muslims. But friendship with non-Muslims who are at war with Islam is not lawful.

'This is from God. God provides for whoever He wills without measure.' 38 Thereupon Zachariah prayed to his Lord, saying, 'Lord, grant me by Your own grace virtuous offspring. You are the hearer of all prayers.' 39 As he stood praying in the chamber, the angels called out to him, saying, 'God gives you the good news of John, who shall confirm the Word from God, and [shall be] outstanding among men, and utterly chaste, and a prophet from among the righteous.' 40 'Lord,' said Zachariah, 'how shall I have a son when I am now overtaken by old age and my wife is barren?' 'Such is the will of God,' replied [the angel], 'He does what He pleases.' 41 He said, 'My Lord, grant me a sign.' [The angel] said, 'Your sign is that you will not be able to speak to people for three days except by signs. Remember your Lord much and glorify Him morning and evening.' 42 The angels said, 'Mary, God has selected you and purified you. He has selected you over [all] the women of your time. 43 O Mary! Remain truly devout to your Sustainer, and prostrate yourself in worship, and bow down with those who bow down [before Him].' 44 This is an account of the unseen, which We reveal to you. You were not with them when they drew lots as to which of them should be Mary's guardian and you were not with them when they disputed with one another.

45 When the angels said, 'O Mary, your Lord gives you good news of a Word from Him. His name is the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, honoured in this world and in the next and one of those who are granted nearness to God. 46 And he shall speak to men in his cradle, and as a grown man, and shall be one of the righteous.' 47 'Lord,' she said, 'how can I have a child when no man has touched me?' [The angel] replied, 'Thus it is: God creates what He wills: when He wills a thing He need only say, "Be," and it is. 48 God will instruct him in the Book and in wisdom and in the

Torah and in the Gospel. 49 He
will make him a messenger to
the Children of Israel. He will
say: “I have come to you with a
sign from your Lord. I will make
the shape of a bird out of clay for
you and then breathe into it and,
by God’s leave, it will become a
living bird. And by God’s leave
I will heal the blind and the leper
and bring the dead to life. I will
tell you what you may eat and
what to store up in your homes.
Surely in this there is a sign for
you, if you are believers. 50 I
come to fulfill [the prediction]
of the Torah which preceded me
and to make lawful for you some
of what was forbidden to you
and I come to you with a sign
from your Lord. So fear God and
obey me. 51 God is my Lord and
your Lord, so worship Him. That
is the straight path.”’

52 When Jesus perceived their
denial, he said, ‘Who will be my
helpers in God’s cause?’ The
disciples said, ‘We are God’s
helpers, we believe in God. Bear
witness that we have surrendered
ourselves. 53 Our Lord, we
believe in what You have sent
down and we follow the
messenger, so count us among
those who bear witness.’ 54 And
they schemed but God also
schemed and God is the Best of
Schemers. 55 God said, ‘O Jesus,
I shall cause you to die and will
raise you up to Me and shall
clear you [of the calumnies] of
the disbelievers, and shall place
those who follow you above
those who deny the truth, until
the Day of Judgement; then to
Me shall all return and I will
judge between you regarding
your disputes. 56 Those who deny
the truth shall be sternly punished
in this world and in the world to
come: there shall be none to help
them.’ 57 As for those who have
believed and do good works,
they shall be given their reward
in full. God does not love evil-
doers. 58 This which We recite to
you is a revelation and a wise
reminder.

59 Jesus in the sight of God is
like Adam. He created him from
dust; then said to him, ‘Be!’ and
he was. 60 This is the truth from

your Lord, so do not be among
the doubters. 61 And if anyone
should argue with you about this
[truth] after the knowledge you
have received, say to them,
‘Come! Let us gather our sons
and your sons, our women and
your women, and ourselves and
yourselves; and then let us pray
earnestly and invoke the curse of
God upon the liars. 62 This is the
true account. There is no deity
save Him. God is Mighty and
Wise.’ 63 And if they turn away,
God knows well the evil-doers.

64 Say, ‘People of the Book,
let us come to a word common to
us that we shall worship none
but God and that we shall
associate no partner with Him
and that none of us shall take
others, besides God, for lords.’
And if they turn away, say, ‘Bear
witness that we have submitted
to God.’ 65 People of the Book,
why do you dispute about
Abraham when the Torah and
Gospel were only sent down
after him. Do you not use your
reason? 66 You are those who
disputed about things of which
you had some knowledge. Must
you now argue about things of
which you have no knowledge?
God knows, but you do not know.
67 Abraham was neither a Jew
nor a Christian. He was an
upright man, one who had
surrendered himself to God. He
was not one of those who
associate partners with God.
68 Surely, the people who are
closest to Abraham are those
who followed him and this
Prophet [Muhammad], and those
who believe in him. God is the
guardian of the believers.
69 Some of the People of the
Book wish to lead you astray but
they only lead themselves astray,
though they do not realise it.
70 People of the Book! Why
do you deny God’s signs,
having been witnesses thereof?
71 People of the Book! Why do
you mix truth with falsehood
and knowingly conceal the truth?

72 Some of the People of the
Book say to one another, ‘Believe
in what is revealed to the faithful
in the morning and deny it in the
evening, so that they [the

Muslims] may themselves
abandon their faith [in
confusion]. 73 Believe only in
those who follow your own
religion.’ Say to them, ‘Surely,
the true guidance is the guidance
from God.’ [But you think it is
impossible that] someone else
may be granted [revelation] such
as you were granted—or else
that they should contend against
you before your Lord. Say, ‘All
grace is in the hands of God; He
grants it to whom He wills: for
God is boundless, and all
knowing, 74 He singles out for
His mercy whoever He pleases.
God is the Lord of exceeding
bounty.’ 75 Among the people of
the Book there are some who, if
you entrust them with a heap of
gold, will return it to you. But
there are others of them who, if
you entrust them with a single
dinar, will not return it to you,
unless you keep demanding it
from them. That is because they
say, ‘We are under no obligation
towards the gentiles.’ They
deliberately tell lies about God.
76 Indeed God loves those
who honour their covenants and
fear Him. God loves the
righteous.

77 Those who sell out God’s
covenant and their oaths for a
paltry price will have no share in
the life to come on the Day of
Resurrection. God will neither
speak to them nor cast a look
upon them on the Day of
Judgement, nor will He purify
them. For them there shall be a
grievous punishment. 78 There
are some among them who distort
the Book by the way they speak
to make you think that what they
say is from the Book, whereas it
is not. They say it is from God
whereas it is not. Thus they tell
a lie about God and they know it.
79 No one to whom God has
given the Scriptures and on
whom He has bestowed wisdom
and prophethood would say to
men, ‘Worship me instead of
God.’ [He would say rather], ‘Be
devoted servants of God, for you
have taught and studied the
Scriptures.’ 80 Nor would he
enjoin you to take the angels and
the prophets as your lords; how

could he command you to be disbelievers after you have submitted to God.

81 When God made a covenant with the prophets, He said, ‘Here is the Book and the wisdom which I have given you. When there comes to you a messenger fulfilling that [predictions about him in their Scripture] which is with you, you must believe in him and help him. Do you then affirm this and accept the responsibility I have laid upon you in these terms?’ They said, ‘We will affirm it.’ God said, ‘Then bear witness, and I will bear witness with you.’ 82 Now whoever turns away after this, are surely transgressors. 83 Do they seek a religion other than the religion of God, when everything in the heavens and the earth has submitted to Him, willingly or unwillingly? To Him they shall all return. 84 Say, ‘We believe in God and in what has been sent down to us and to Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob and the Tribes. We believe in what has been given to Moses, Jesus and the prophets from their Lord. We make no distinction between any of them. It is to Him that we have surrendered ourselves.’ 85 If anyone seeks a religion other than Islam [submission to God], it will not be accepted from him; he will be among the losers in the Hereafter. 86 How would God bestow His guidance upon people who have opted for unbelief after having embraced the faith and having borne witness that this Messenger is true and [after] all evidence of the truth has come to them? For, God does not guide such wrongdoers: 87 such people will be rewarded with rejection by God, by the angels, by all mankind. 88 In this state they shall abide forever; their punishment shall not be lightened nor shall they be granted respite. 89 Except for those who afterwards repent and reform. God is forgiving and merciful; 90 but as for those who are bent on denying the truth after accepting the true faith and grow in their refusal to acknowledge

the truth, their repentance will not be accepted. They are the ones who have gone far astray. 91 Those who reject faith and die in the state of rejection will not be saved, even if they offer as ransom enough gold to fill the entire earth. Painful punishment is in store for them and they will have no supporters.

92 Never will you attain to righteousness unless you spend for the cause of God out of what you cherish; and whatever you spend is known to God. 93 All food was lawful for the Children of Israel, except whatever Israel had made unlawful for himself before the Torah was sent down. Say to them, 'Bring the Torah then and read it, if you are truthful. 94 Those who, after this, persist in making up lies and attributing them to God are transgressors.' 95 Say, 'God speaks the Truth, so follow the faith of Abraham. He was an upright man and he was not one of the polytheists.' 96 The first House to be built for mankind was the one at Bakkah [Makkah]. It is a blessed place; a source of guidance for the whole world. 97 There are clear signs in it; it is the place where Abraham stood. Anyone who enters it will be secure. Pilgrimage to the House is a duty to God for anyone who is able to undertake it. Anyone who disbelieves should remember that God is independent of all creatures. 98 Say, 'People of the Book, why do you reject God's revelations when God is witness to all that you do?' 99 Say, 'People of the Book, why do you turn the believers away from the path of God, seeking to make it crooked, while you are witnesses thereof? God is not unaware of what you do.'

100 O believers, if you yield to some of those who were given the Scripture, they will cause you to renounce the truth after you have believed. 101 But how can you deny the truth when God's revelations are being conveyed to you and His own Messenger is in your midst? He who holds fast to God is indeed

guided to the straight path.
102 Believers, fear God as is His
due, and when death comes, be
in a state of complete submission
to Him. 103 Hold fast to the cord
of God and let nothing divide
you. Remember the blessings He
has bestowed upon you; you
were enemies and then He united
your hearts and by His grace you
became brothers; you were on
the brink of an abyss of Fire and
He rescued you from it. Thus
God makes His signs clear to you,
so that you may find guidance.

104 Let there be a group among
you who call others to good, and
enjoin what is right, and forbid
what is wrong: those who do this
shall be successful. 105 Do not be
like those who, after they had
been given clear evidence, split
into factions and differed among
themselves: a terrible punishment
awaits such people. 106 On the
Day when some faces are bright
and some faces are dark, it will
be said to those with darkened
faces, 'Did you reject faith after
accepting it? Taste, then, this
punishment for having denied
the truth!' 107 But as for those
with shining faces, they shall
abide forever in God's grace.
108 These are God's revelations;
We recite them to you in all
truth. God desires no injustice to
mankind. 109 His is all that the
heavens and the earth contain.
To God shall all things return.

110 You are indeed the best
community that has ever been
brought forth for [the good of]
mankind. You enjoin what is
good, and forbid what is evil,
and you believe in God. If the
People of the Book had also
believed, it would have surely
been better for them. Some of
them are true believers, but most
of them are disobedient. 111 They
can do you very little harm; if
they come out to fight you, they
will show you their backs; then
they shall not be helped—
112 abasement shall attend them
wherever they are found, unless
they make a covenant with God
or with man. They have incurred
God's wrath and have been
utterly humbled, because they
have persistently disbelieved in

God’s signs and killed prophets
unjustly. This resulted from their
disobedience and their habit of
transgression.

113 Yet they are not all alike.
Of the People of the Book there
are some who stand by their
covenant; they recite the word of
God during the night and
prostrate themselves before Him,
114 who believe in God and the
Last Day, who enjoin justice and
forbid evil and vie with each
other in good works. These are
righteous men 115 and they will
not be denied [the reward] for
whatever good deeds they do:
God knows the righteous. 116 As
for those who deny the truth,
neither their possessions nor their
children shall avail them in the
least against God. They will be
inmates of the Fire. They will
remain there for ever; 117 that
which they spend in pursuit of
the life of this world is like a
biting frosty blast which smites
the harvest of a people who have
wronged themselves, and destroys
it. God is not unjust to them; they
are unjust to their own souls.

118 Believers, do not take
outsiders as your intimate friends,
they will spare no effort to harm
you. They love to see you suffer;
their hatred is evident from the
words which fall from their
mouths. But what their hearts
conceal is far worse. We have
made Our signs clear to you; will
you not understand? 119 It is you
who love them, but they do not
love you; you believe in all the
revealed Books. When they meet
you, they say, ‘We believe,’ but
when they are alone, they bite
their fingertips with rage. Say,
‘Die of rage!’ God is aware of
what your hearts contain.
120 Whenever something good
happens to you, it grieves them;
but when evil befalls you, they
rejoice. If you persevere and fear
God, their designs will never
harm you in the least: God
encompasses all that they do.

121 When you set out at dawn
from your home to assign battle
positions to the believers—God
hears all and knows all. 122 When
two groups from among you
were about to lose heart, God

was their protector. In God let the faithful put their trust. 123 God had already helped you at Badr, when you were weak. Fear God, so that you may be grateful. 124 [And remember] when you said to the believers, 'Does it not suffice that your Lord helps you by sending down three thousand angels? 125 If you remain patient and God-fearing, and the enemy should fall upon you all of a sudden, Your Lord will reinforce you with five thousand angels clearly marked!' 126 and God ordained this only as good news for you so that your hearts might be comforted—help comes only from God, the Powerful, the Wise One—127 and so that He might cut off a portion of those who are bent on denying the truth or abase them so that they might be turned back frustrated. 128 You have no say in this affair to decide whether He will relent towards them or He will punish them: they are wrongdoers. 129 Whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on the earth belong to God. He forgives whoever He pleases and punishes whoever He pleases. God is most forgiving and ever merciful.

130 Believers, do not devour usury multiplied many times over. Fear God, so that you may prosper—131 guard yourself against the Fire prepared for those who deny the truth—132 and obey God and the Messenger, so that you may be given mercy. 133 And vie with one another for your Lord's forgiveness and for a Paradise as vast as the heavens and the earth, which has been prepared for the God-fearing, 134 for those who spend, both in prosperity and adversity, who restrain their anger and are forgiving towards their fellow men—God loves those who do good works. 135 And who, when they have committed an indecency or have wronged their souls, remember God and pray that their sins be forgiven—for who but God can forgive sins?—and do not knowingly persist in their misdeeds, 136 their recompense is forgiveness from

their Lord, and Gardens with
rivers flowing through them,
where they will abide forever.
How excellent will be the reward
of those who do good works.
137 There are many examples [of
the communities] that have
passed away before you: travel
through the land, and see what
was the end of those who rejected
the Truth. 138 This Quran is an
exposition for the people and a
guidance and admonition for
those who fear God.

139 And do not become faint of
heart, nor grieve—you will have
the upper hand, if you are
believers—140 if you have
suffered a wound, they too have
suffered a similar wound. We
bring these days to men by turns,
so that God may know those
who believe, and choose
witnesses from among you; and
God does not love the unjust,
141 so that God may purge those
who believe and wipe out those
who deny the truth. 142 Do you
suppose that you would enter the
Garden, without God knowing
those among you who would
strive hard for His cause and
endure with fortitude? 143 You
were longing for death, before
you met it. Now you have seen it
with your own eyes.

144 Muhammad is only a
messenger. Messengers have
passed away before him. If he
should die, or be killed, will you
turn back on your heels? Those
who turn on their heels do not
harm the Lord in the least. God
will reward the grateful. 145 No
soul shall die except with God’s
permission and at an appointed
time. And if one desires the
rewards of this world, We shall
grant it to him; and if one desires
the rewards of the life to come,
We shall grant it to him. We will
reward the grateful. 146 How
many a prophet has fought with
many devout men alongside him!
They did not lose heart, despite
all that they had to suffer in
God’s path. They neither
weakened nor yielded. God loves
the patient! 147 All they said was,
‘Our Lord, forgive us our sins
and our excesses. Make our feet
firm, and help us against those

who deny the truth,' 148 and so God gave them both the rewards of this life and the excellent recompense of the life to come: God loves those who do good.

149 Believers, if you yield to those who deny the truth, they will cause you to turn back on your heels and you will turn into losers. 150 No, indeed! it is God who is your protector: He is the best supporter. 151 We will strike awe into the hearts of those who deny the truth, because they have associated partners with God, for which He has sent down no authority. Their abode shall be the Fire, and evil indeed is the abode of the wrongdoers. 152 And God made good His promise to you when by His leave you were about to destroy your foes, but then your courage failed you and you disagreed among yourselves [concerning the Prophet's direction] and disobeyed it, after He had brought you within sight of what you wished for—some of you desired the goods of this world and some of you desired the Hereafter—then in order that He might put you to the test, He prevented you from defeating your foes. But now He has pardoned you: God is most gracious to the believers. 153 When you were running away and did not look back at anyone, while the Messenger was calling to you from behind, He paid you back with one sorrow after another, so that you might not grieve for what you lost, nor for what befell you. God is aware of what you do.

154 Then, after sorrow He sent down peace [of mind] upon you in the shape of drowsiness that overcame some of you, but there were others who were anxious only about themselves. They entertained false notions about God, like the notions of the days of ignorance. 'Have we any say in the matter?' they asked. Say to them, 'All is in the hands of God.' They conceal in their hearts what they would not reveal to you. They say, 'Had we had any say in the matter, none of us would have been killed here.' Say to them, 'Had you stayed in

your homes, those whose death had been decreed would nevertheless have gone forth to the places where they were destined to die.' And all this befell you so that God might test what is in your minds. And in order to purify what was in your hearts. For God is aware of your innermost thoughts. 155 Those of you who turned away on the day the two hosts met [in battle] were made to slip by Satan on account of some of their deeds. But God has pardoned them: God is forgiving and forbearing.

156 Believers, do not be like those who are bent on denying the truth and who say of their brothers, when they travel about the land or go forth to war, 'Had they but remained with us, they would not have died, or been slain'—for God will cause such thoughts to become a source of bitter regret in their hearts, since it is God who gives life and causes death. And God sees all that you do. 157 If you are killed or die in God's cause, then surely forgiveness from God and His grace are better than all that one could amass. 158 For, indeed, if you die or are killed, it is to God that you shall be gathered. 159 It is by God's grace that you were gentle with them—for if you had been harsh and hard-hearted, they would surely have deserted you—so bear with them and pray for forgiveness for them. Take counsel with them in the conduct of affairs; then, when you have decided upon a course of action, place your trust in God: for God loves those who place their trust in Him. 160 If God helps you, none can overcome you, but if He withdraws His help from you, who is there who can help you besides Him? In God, then, let the believers place their trust!

161 It is not for any Prophet to hold back anything; he who hides anything away shall bring it forth on the Day of Resurrection, when every human being shall be repaid in full for whatever he has done, and none shall be wronged. 162 Can one who seeks the pleasure of God, be like one who

incurs the wrath of God and whose abode shall be Hell—an evil destination? 163 All have a different standing in the eyes of God, and God is observant of all their actions. 164 Indeed, God has conferred a great favour on the believers in sending a Messenger from among themselves, to recite His revelations to them, and purify them, and teaches them the Book and wisdom, for, before that they were surely in manifest error.

165 What! When a misfortune befalls you, after you had yourself inflicted twice as heavy losses, you say, ‘How has this come about?’ Say, ‘It was your own fault.’ Truly, God has the power to will anything: 166 the misfortune which befell you on the day when the two armies met happened by God’s leave, so that He might mark out the [true] believers 167 and know those who acted hypocritically.’ When they were told, ‘Come, fight in God’s cause and defend yourselves,’ they replied, ‘If we knew that fighting would take place, we would surely follow you.’ They were that day nearer to unbelief than to belief. The words they utter bear no relation to what is in their hearts. God knows well what they conceal. 168 Those who stayed behind, said of their brothers, ‘Had they listened to us, they would not have been killed.’ Say to them, ‘Ward off death from yourselves, then, if what you say be true!’

169 Do not think of those who have been killed in God’s cause as dead. They are alive, and well provided for by their Lord; 170 they are joyful because of what God has bestowed on them of His grace and they rejoice that those they left behind, who have not yet joined them, that they shall have no fear, nor shall they grieve; 171 rejoicing in God’s grace and bounty. [They know that] God will not fail to requite the believers. 172 Those who responded to the call of God and the Messenger, despite their having received an injury, and such of them as did good deeds and feared God, shall have a

great reward. 173 Those who, on being told that, ‘the enemy has gathered against you a great force, so fear them,’ only grew stronger in their faith and replied, ‘God is sufficient for us. He is the best guardian.’ 174 They returned home with God’s favour and blessings, without having been touched by evil; for they pursued God’s pleasure. And God’s bounty is infinite. 175 It is Satan who instills fear [into you] of his followers; do not fear them. But fear Me, if you are true believers.

176 And let not those grieve you who vie with one another in denying the truth: they cannot harm God in the least; it is God’s will that they will have no share in the life to come—a severe punishment awaits them. 177 Those who have bought a denial of truth at the price of faith can in no way harm God; painful punishment awaits them. 178 Let not those who deny the truth think that Our granting them respite is good for them: Our granting them respite will only cause them to increase in disobedience—shameful punishment awaits them. 179 On no account will God leave the believers in the condition in which they are now, until He separates the evil from the good. Nor will God reveal to you the unseen. But God chooses those of his messengers whom He will. Therefore, believe in God and His messengers, for if you have faith and guard yourselves against evil, you shall have a great reward.

180 Let not those who are niggardly with what God has granted them out of His bounty think that it is good for them. Indeed, it is evil for them. What they are niggardly about shall be hung about their necks like a collar on the Day of Resurrection. It is God who will inherit the heavens and the earth: God is aware of all that you do. 181 God has indeed heard the words of those who said, ‘Behold, God is poor while we are rich!’ We shall record what they have said—and their slaying of the prophets

unjustly—and We shall say,
‘Taste the torment of burning.
182 In return for what your own
hands have wrought—for never
does God do the least wrong to
His creatures!’ 183 To those who
say, ‘God has commanded us not
to believe in any messenger
unless he brings down to us an
offering to be consumed by fire,’
say, ‘Messengers before me have
come to you with clear signs,
including the one you demand.
Why did you kill them, if you are
telling the truth?’ 184 If they deny
you, so have other messengers
been denied before you, who
came with clear signs, scriptures
and enlightening book. 185 Every
human being is bound to taste
death: and you shall receive your
rewards in full on the Day of
Resurrection. He who is kept
away from the Fire and is
admitted to Paradise, will surely
triumph; for the life of this world
is nothing but an illusory
enjoyment.

186 You will surely be tried and
tested in your possessions and
your persons, and you shall surely
hear many hurtful things from
those who were given the Book
before you and from those who
set up partners with God, but if
you endure with fortitude
and restrain yourselves, that
indeed is a matter of strong
determination. 187 God made a
covenant with those who were
given the Book to make it known
to people and not conceal it. But
they cast it behind their backs
and bartered it for a paltry price:
what an evil bargain they made!
188 Those who exult in their
misdeeds and love to be praised
for what they have not done
should not suppose that they are
secure from punishment;
they shall suffer a grievous
punishment. 189 The kingdom of
the heavens and the earth belongs
to God; God has power over all
things.

190 There are signs in the
creation of the heavens and the
earth, and in the alternation of
night and day for people of
understanding; 191 who remember
God while standing, sitting and
[lying] on their sides, and who

ponder over the creation of the heavens and the earth, saying, ‘Lord, You have not created all this without purpose. Glory be to You! Save us from the torment of the Fire. 192 Lord, those whom You condemn to enter the Fire You have surely brought to disgrace. Wrongdoers will have no supporters. 193 Lord, we have heard a caller calling to the true faith saying, “Believe in your Lord,” and we believed. Lord, forgive us our sins and remove from us our bad deeds and make us die with the virtuous. 194 Our Lord! Grant us what You have promised to us through Your messengers, and do not humiliate us on the Day of Resurrection. Surely, You never fail to fulfill Your promise.’

195 Their Lord accepted their prayer, saying, ‘I will deny no man or woman among you the reward of their labours. You are members one of another. I will certainly forgive the sins of those who emigrated and were expelled from their homes, who suffered persecution in My cause, who fought and were killed. I will certainly admit them to Gardens through which rivers flow, as a reward from God: with God is the best reward.’ 196 Do not be deceived by the actions of those who deny the truth in the land: 197 this is only a brief enjoyment, after which Hell shall be their abode—what an evil resting place! 198 Those who fear their Lord shall have gardens through which rivers flow, wherein they will abide forever: and a goodly welcome from their Lord. God’s recompense is best for the virtuous. 199 Some of the People of the Book believe in God, and in what has been revealed to you and what was revealed to them. They humble themselves before God and do not sell God’s revelations for a trifling price. These shall be rewarded by their Lord: God is swift in reckoning! 200 Believers, endure, vie with each other in endurance, stand firm in your faith and fear God, so that you may succeed.

(56)

4. WOMEN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 O mankind! Fear your Lord,
who created you from a single
soul. He created its mate from it
and from the two of them spread
countless men and women
[throughout the earth]. Fear God,
in whose name you appeal to one
another, and be mindful of your
obligations in respect of ties of
kinship. God is always watching
over you.[a] 2 Give the orphans the
possessions that belong to them,
do not exchange good things
with bad and do not consume
their property, adding it to your
own. Surely, this is a great crime.
3 If you fear that you cannot deal
fairly with orphan girls, you may
marry women of your choice,
two or three or four; but if you
fear that you might not be able to
treat them with equal fairness,
then only one—or [from among]
those whom you rightfully
possess. That is more likely to
keep you from committing an
injustice. 4 And give the women
their dowers willingly, but if
they, of their own accord, remit
any part of it to you, you may
make use of it with pleasure and
goodwill.
5 Do not give those who are of
immature mind your property
which God has granted you as a
means of support: make
provision for them out of it, and
clothe them, and give them good
advice. 6 Keep a close check on
orphans till they attain the age of
marriage; then, if you find them
to be mature of mind, hand over
their property to them. Do not
consume it by wasteful spending,

---

[a] All human beings are one and the same by birth. Ultimately, everyone can trace his origin to the same man and woman as father and mother. It is, therefore, necessary that all human beings should have a feeling of affinity with each other and live with fairness and goodwill like the members of one extended family.

before they come of age. If the guardian is affluent, let him abstain altogether, and if he is poor, let him have for himself what is just and reasonable. When you hand over their property to them, call witnesses in their presence; God is sufficient as a Reckoner. 7 Men shall have a share in what parents and relatives leave behind, and women shall have a share in what parents and relatives leave behind, whether it be little or much. This is ordained [by God]. 8 If other relatives, orphans or needy people are present at the time of the division, then provide for them out of it, and speak kindly to them. 9 Those who are concerned about the fate of their own helpless children if they should die and leave them behind should show the same concern for orphans. Let them fear God and uphold justice. 10 Those who consume the property of orphans unjustly are actually swallowing fire into their own bellies; soon they will burn in the blazing Flame.

11 Concerning your children, God enjoins you that a male shall receive a share equivalent to that of two females. But if there are more than two females, then their share is two thirds of the inheritance. If there is only one, she will receive the half. Each of your parents receives a sixth of what you leave if you have children. If you are childless and your heirs are your parents, your mother receives a third. If you have brothers [or sisters] your mother receives a sixth, after [the deduction of] any bequest you make or the repayment of any debts with regard to your father and your sons. You do not know which of them is going to benefit you more: but this fixing of portions is by God and He is all knowing and all wise. 12 You will inherit half of what your wives leave, provided they have left no children. But if they leave children then you inherit a quarter of what they leave, after payment of any bequests they may have made or any debts they may have incurred. Your wives shall inherit

one quarter of what you leave if
you are childless. But if you
leave children, your wives shall
inherit one eighth, after payment
of any bequest or debts. If a man
or woman has no direct heirs
[neither children or parents] but
has left a brother or a sister, they
shall each inherit one sixth, but
if they are more than two, they
share one third between them,
after payment of any bequests or
debts, so that no harm is done to
anyone. That is a commandment
from God: God is all knowing
and forbearing. 13 These are the
limits set by God. Anyone who
obeys God and His Messenger
will be admitted to Gardens
through which rivers flow, to
live there forever. That will be
the supreme achievement. 14 But
anyone who disobeys God and
His Messenger and transgresses
His limits shall be cast into a
Fire, wherein he will abide
forever. And he shall have a
humiliating punishment.

15 If any of your women
commit fornication, call in four
male witnesses from among
yourselves against them; if they
testify to their guilt, confine them
to the house until death releases
them or until God gives them
another way out. 16 If two men
commit a like abomination,
punish them both. If they repent
and mend their ways, leave them
alone. God is forgiving and
merciful. 17 But God undertakes
to accept repentance only from
those who do evil out of
ignorance and those who repent
soon after. God turns towards
such people with mercy; He is
all knowing and all wise.
18 Forgiveness is not for those
who continue to do evil deeds
until, when death comes upon one
of them, he says: ‘Now I repent!’
nor from those who die as deniers
of the truth. We have prepared a
painful punishment for them.

19 Believers, it is not lawful
for you to inherit women against
their will, nor should you detain
them wrongfully, so that you
may take away a part of what you
have given them, unless they are
guilty of something clearly
outrageous. Live with them in

accordance with what is fair and kind; if you dislike them, it may be that you dislike something which God might make a source of abundant good. 20 If you desire to replace one wife with another, do not take any part of her dower back: even if you have given her a treasure. Would you take it by slandering her and with manifest sinfulness? 21 How can you take it when you have been intimate with one another, and she has taken a solemn pledge from you? 22 Do not marry women whom your fathers married, except for what has already taken place in the past. This is indeed a shameful deed, a loathsome thing and an evil practice.

23 You are forbidden to take as wives your mothers, daughters, sisters, paternal and maternal aunts, your brothers' daughters and your sisters' daughters, your foster mothers and foster sisters, your wives' mothers and stepdaughters in your protection and the daughters of your wives with whom you have consummated your marriage; but if you have not consummated your marriage then you will not be blamed [if you marry their daughters.] You are also forbidden to marry the spouses of your sons or two sisters together, except what has already passed. Surely, God is ever-forgiving and merciful. 24 Also forbidden are married women, except those who have passed into your hands as prisoners of war. This is a commandment of God to you. All women other than these are lawful to you, provided you seek them with your wealth in honest wedlock, not in fornication. When you consummate your marriage with them, give the dowers due to them. And there is no sin for you in what you do by mutual agreement after the fixing of the dower. God is all knowing and wise. 25 If any of you cannot afford to marry a free believing woman let him marry one of his believing maids whom he possesses. God best knows your faith. You are one of another. So marry them with their owner's

permission, and give them their
dower according to what is fair,
neither committing fornication
nor taking secret paramours. And
if, after they are married, they
commit adultery they shall have
half the punishment prescribed
for a free woman. This is for
those of you who fear lest he
should fall into sin. But that it is
better for you to practise self
restraint. God is most forgiving
and merciful.

26 God wishes to explain things
to you and guide you to the ways
of those who have gone before
you and to turn to you in mercy.
God is all knowing and all wise.
27 He wishes to turn towards you
in mercy, but those who follow
their own passions want you to
drift far away from the right
path. 28 God wishes to lighten
your burdens, for, man has been
created weak.

29 Believers, do not wrongfully
consume each other's wealth,
but trade with it by mutual
consent. Do not kill one another,
for God is most merciful to you.
30 If anyone does these things
through transgression and
injustice, We shall cast him into
the Fire; and that is easy for God.
31 If you shun the great sins you
have been forbidden, We shall
cancel out your minor misdeeds
and admit you to a place of
honour. 32 Do not covet the
bounties which God has
bestowed more abundantly on
some of you than on others. Men
shall be rewarded according to
their deeds, and women shall be
rewarded according to their
deeds. You should rather ask
God for His bounty. God has
knowledge of all things. 33 We
have appointed heirs for
everything that parents and close
relatives leave behind. As for
those with whom you have
entered into agreements, let them,
too, have their due. God is
witness to all things.

34 Men are protectors of
women, because God has made
some of them excel others and
because they spend their wealth
on them. So virtuous women are
obedient and guard in the
husband's absence what God

would have them guard. As for those from whom you apprehend infidelity, admonish them, then refuse to share their beds, and finally hit them [lightly].[a] Then if they obey you, take no further action against them. For God is High, Great. 35 If you fear any breach between a man and his wife, appoint one arbiter from his family and one arbiter from her family. If they both want to set things right, God will bring about a reconciliation between them: He is all knowing and all aware.

36 Worship God: and do not associate partners with Him. Be good to your parents, to relatives, to orphans, to the needy, and the neighbour who is a kinsman, and the neighbour who is not related to you and your companions and the wayfarers and those whom you rightfully possess. God does not like arrogant, boastful people, 37 who are miserly and enjoin others to be the same and conceal the riches which God has given them of His bounty. We have prepared a humiliating punishment for those who deny the truth. 38 And [God does not like] those who spend their wealth for the sake of ostentation, who do not believe in God or the Last Day. Whoever has Satan as his companion has an evil companion. 39 What harm could befall them if they believed in God and the Last Day, and spent out of what God bestowed on them? God knows them well. 40 God does not wrong anyone by as much as a grain's weight. If there be a good deed, He will repay twofold, and will bestow out of His own bounty an immense reward.

41 What will they do when We bring a witness from each community and bring you as a witness against these people? 42 On that Day, those who were bent on denying the truth and disobeyed the Messenger will wish that the earth were made

[a] This signifies a symbolic act, as the Prophet forbade the beating of woman saying, 'Never beat God's handmaidens'.

level above them. They will not be able to hide anything from God. 43 Believers, do not approach your prayers when you are drunk, until you understand what you say, nor when you are in a state of impurity, —except when you are on a journey—till you have bathed. And if you are ill, or on a journey or have relieved yourselves or when you have consorted with women and you cannot find any water, then find some clean sand and wipe your face and your hands with it. God is gracious and forgiving.

44 Do you not know of those who were in possession of a portion of the Book? They buy up error and want you to lose your way. 45 God is quite aware as to who your enemies are; God suffices as a patron, and God suffices as a supporter. 46 Some Jews take words out of their context and say, 'We have heard, but we disobey,' or 'Hear without listening.' And they say 'Look at us,' twisting the phrase with their tongues so as to disparage religion. But if they had said, 'We hear and we obey,' and 'Listen to us and look at us with favour,' that would have been better and more proper for them. God has rejected them for their defiance so that they shall not believe, except a few of them.

47 O People of the Book, believe in what We have sent down, fulfilling [the predictions] that is with you, before We destroy [your sense of] direction, so as to confound or reject you, as We rejected those who broke the Sabbath: God's command is always carried out. 48 God will not forgive anyone for associating something with Him, while He will forgive whoever He wishes for anything besides that. Whoever ascribes partners to God is guilty of a monstrous sin. 49 Have you not seen those who consider themselves pure? It is indeed God who purifies whoever He pleases and none shall be wronged by as much as a hair's breadth. 50 See how they attribute their own lying inventions to God. This is in itself a flagrant sin!

51 Have you not seen those
who were in possession of a
portion of the Book? They
believe in idols and devils. They
say of those who deny the truth,
'They are more rightly guided
than the believers.' 52 Those are
the ones God has rejected: you
will not find anyone to help
those God has rejected. 53 Have
they a share in God's kingdom?
If they did, they would not give
others so much as the groove of
a date stone. 54 Do they envy
others because of what God has
given them out of His bounty?
We granted the House of
Abraham the Book and wisdom
and We granted them a great
kingdom. 55 Some of them
believed in it and some held
back from it. Hell will suffice as
a blazing Fire. 56 We shall send
those who reject Our revelations
to the Fire. When their skins are
burnt up, We shall replace them
with new ones so that they may
continue to taste the punishment.
God is mighty and wise. 57 As
for those who believe and do
good works, We shall make them
enter Gardens through which
rivers flow, to dwell therein
forever; therein they shall have
pure spouses, and We shall admit
them into a dense shade.

58 God commands you to hand
back your trusts to their rightful
owners, and when you judge
between people, to judge with
fairness. God's instructions to
you are excellent. God hears and
sees all things. 59 Believers, obey
God and obey the Messenger
and those who have been
entrusted with authority among
you. If you are in dispute over
any matter, refer it to God and
the Messenger, if you truly
believe in God and the Last Day:
this is best, and best in the end.
60 Have you not seen those who
profess to believe in what has
been revealed to you and [to
other prophets] before you? They
seek the judgement of evil
people, although they were
commanded not to obey them.
And Satan wants to lead them
far astray. 61 When they are told,
'Come to what God has sent
down and to the Messenger,' you

see the hypocrites turn away
from you. 62 How will it be when
an affliction befalls them because of what they themselves have done? They will come to you, swearing by God, saying that they were seeking nothing but
goodwill and conciliation. 63 But
God knows all that is in their hearts; so ignore what they say, admonish them and speak to them in such terms as will address their minds.

64 All the messengers We sent were meant to be obeyed by God's leave. If they had come to you and sought forgiveness from God whenever they wronged themselves, and the Messenger had prayed for forgiveness for them, they would have found that God is ever-forgiving and
merciful. 65 By your Lord, they
will not be true believers until they seek your arbitration in their disputes and find within themselves no doubt about what you decide and accept it
wholeheartedly. 66 If We had
commanded them, 'Lay down your lives or leave your dwellings,' they would have not done it, save a few of them. If they had done what they were instructed to do, it would have been better for them, as well as more strengthening [for their
faith], 67 and We would have
given them a great reward of Our
own, 68 and guided them to a
straight path. 69 Whoever obeys
God and the Messenger will be among those He has blessed: the messengers, the truthful, the witnesses, and the righteous. What excellent companions these
are! 70 That is God's favour.
Sufficient is God's infinite knowledge.

71 You who believe, take your precautions and then go forth in small groups or go forth all
together. 72 Among you are some
who lag behind and if you encounter a setback, they say, 'God has been gracious to me; I
was not present with them.' 73 But
if, by God's grace, good fortune should be your lot, they will say, 'If only I had been with them I should have achieved a great success,' as if no affection had

existed between you and them.
74 Let those who would exchange
the life of this world for the
Hereafter, fight for the cause of
God;[a] whoever fights for the
cause of God, whether he is slain
or is victorious, to him We shall
give a great reward. 75 And how
should you not fight for the
cause of God, and for the helpless
old men, women, and children
who say, 'Deliver us, Lord, from
this city of wrongdoers, grant us
a protector out of Your grace and
grant us a supporter out of Your
grace?' 76 The believers fight for
the cause of God, while those
who reject faith fight for Satan.
Then fight the allies of Satan:
Satan's scheming is truly weak.

77 Have you not seen those to
whom it was said, 'Restrain your
hands, say your prayers and pay
the prescribed alms?' And when
they have been ordered to fight,
some of them have felt afraid of
human beings just as they should
be afraid of God, or they are
even more afraid. They say, 'Our
Lord, why have You ordered us
to fight? If You would only
postpone it for a little while
longer!' Say, 'The benefits of
this world are negligible and the
Hereafter will be better for one
who fears God; and you shall not
be wronged in the slightest.
78 Wherever you may be, death
will overtake you, even if you be
in strongly built towers.' If some
good befalls them, they say, 'This
is from God,' and if ill befalls
them, they say, 'This is from
you.' Tell them, 'All is from
God.' But what is wrong with
these people that they fail
to understand anything?
79 Whatever good befalls you, it
is from God: and whatever ill
befalls you is from yourself. We
have sent you forth as a
messenger to mankind; and God
suffices as a witness.

80 He who obeys the Messenger
obeys God. As for those who
turn away, know that We have
not sent you to be their keeper.
81 They say: 'We obey you,' but
as soon as they leave you, a

---

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

group of them plan together by night against what you say. God records whatever they scheme. So ignore them, and put your trust in God. God is sufficient as a trustee. [82] Do they not ponder on the Quran? If it had been from anyone other than God, they would have found much inconsistency in it. [83] When they hear any news, whether of peace or of something fearful, they spread it about; whereas if they referred it to the Messenger and to those in authority among them, those of them who sought news would have investigated it and could have arrived at the truth of the matter. But for God's grace and mercy, all but a few of you would have followed Satan.

[84] So fight for the cause of God. You are responsible only for yourself. Urge on the believers. God may fend off the power [violence] of those who deny the truth, for He is stronger in might and stronger in inflicting punishment. [85] Whoever rallies to a good cause shall have a share in its blessing; and whoever rallies to an evil cause shall be answerable for his part in it: for, indeed, God watches over everything. [86] When you are greeted by anyone, respond with a better greeting or at least return it; God takes account of all things. [87] He is God: there is no deity other than Him. He will gather you all together on the Day of Resurrection, there is no doubt about it. Whose word can be truer than God's?

[88] How is it that you are divided into two groups regarding the hypocrites, when God Himself cast them back [to disbelief] because of their misdeeds? Do you seek to guide those whom God allows to go astray? You cannot guide those whom God allows to go astray. [89] They want you to deny the Truth, so that you may become all alike. Do not take them as your allies until they emigrate in the way of God. If they turn back, seize them and kill them[a] wherever you may

---

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

find them; and take no friend or helper from among them. 90 But make an exception of those who seek refuge with people with whom you have a treaty, or who come over to you because their hearts forbid them to fight against you or against their own people. Had God pleased, He would have given them power over you, so that they would have taken up arms against you. Therefore, if they keep away from you and cease their hostility and propose peace to you, God does not allow you to harm them. 91 You will find others who wish to be safe from you, and from their own people, yet whenever they find an opportunity of inflicting harm, they plunge into it. So if they neither withdraw, nor offer you peace, nor restrain themselves from fighting you, seize and kill them wherever you encounter them. Over such people We have given you clear authority.

92 No believer should kill another believer, unless it be by mistake. Anyone who kills a believer by mistake should free a believing slave and pay blood money to the victim's relatives unless they forego it as an act of charity. If the victim belongs to a people at war with you, but is a believer, then the compensation is to free a believing slave. If he belongs to a people with whom you have a treaty, then blood-money should be handed over to his relatives and a believing slave set free. Anyone who lacks the means must fast for two consecutive months. Such is the penance imposed by God. God is all knowing and wise. 93 If anyone kills a believer deliberately, his reward shall be eternal Hell. God will condemn him and reject him, and prepare for him a terrible punishment.

94 Believers, when you go forth in the cause of God, make due investigation and do not say to those who offer you the greeting of peace, 'You are no believer!' because you seek the good things of this life. With God there are good things in plenty. You yourself were in the same

position before, but God
conferred His special favour on
you. Therefore, take care to
investigate. Surely God is well-
aware of what you do. [95] Those
believers who stay behind—apart
from those forced by necessity—
are not equal to those who strive
hard in God's cause with their
possessions and their persons.
God has given those who strive
with their goods and their persons
a higher rank than those who
stayed behind. God has promised
all a good reward; but far greater
is the recompense of those who
strive for Him—[96] high ranks
conferred by Him as well as
forgiveness and mercy. God is
forgiving and merciful.

[97] When the angels take the
souls of those who have wronged
themselves, they will ask, 'What
was wrong with you?' They will
answer, 'We were too weak on
earth.' The angels will say, 'Was
God's earth not spacious enough
for you to have migrated to some
other place?' These are the ones
whose abode shall be Hell, an
evil destination—[98] except such
weak ones among men, women
and children, as are incapable of
adopting any plan or of finding
any way out. [99] God may well
pardon them. God is ever-
pardoning and ever forgiving.
[100] Whoever emigrates for the
cause of God will find many
places of refuge in the land and
plentiful provision. Those who
leave home for the cause of God
and His Messenger; but is then
overtaken by death, shall be
recompensed by God. God is
most forgiving and ever-merciful.

[101] When you [believers] are
travelling in the land, you will
not be blamed for shortening
your prayers, if you fear the
disbelievers may harm you. They
are your avowed enemies.
[102] When you are among the
believers and lead them in prayer,
let only part of them stand up
along with you, armed with their
weapons. After they have
prostrated themselves, let them
withdraw to the rear to stand
guard and then let another party,
who have not yet prayed, come
forward and pray with you. And

let them also be on their guard, armed with their weapons. Those who deny the truth want you to be negligent of your arms and your baggage, so that they may fall upon you suddenly. It is no offence for you to lay aside your arms when overtaken by heavy rain or illness, and always take every precaution for defence. God has prepared a humiliating punishment for those who deny the truth.
103 When you have finished the prayer, remember God while standing, and sitting, and lying on your sides. When you feel secure, say your prayers in the prescribed form. Believers are under the obligation to say their prayers at the appointed hours.
104 Do not relent in the pursuit of the enemy. If you are suffering hardships, they too are suffering similar hardships, but what you can hope for from God, they cannot. God is all knowing and wise.

105 We have sent the Book down to you with the truth so that you may judge among mankind by means of what God has shown you. And do not be an advocate for the treacherous.
106 Ask God for forgiveness: He is most forgiving and merciful.
107 And do not plead on behalf of those who are dishonest to themselves. Surely God does not love one who is treacherous and sinful.
108 They feel ashamed before men but do not feel ashamed before God, despite His being present with them when they plot at night, uttering things of which He does not approve; and indeed God is fully aware of what they do.

109 You might argue on their behalf in the life of this world: but who will argue on their behalf with God on the Day of Resurrection and who will be their defender?
110 Yet anyone who does evil or wrongs his own soul and then asks God for forgiveness will find God forgiving and merciful.
111 He who commits sin does so against his own soul. God is all knowing and wise.
112 And anyone who commits an offence or a sin, then charges an innocent person with

it, shall certainly bear the guilt of a calumny and a manifest sin. 113 If it were not for the grace of God and His mercy to you, some of them had resolved to lead you astray but they lead astray no one but themselves. Nor can they do you any harm. God has sent down to you the Book and Wisdom and has taught you what you did not know. God's favour to you has been great indeed.

114 There is no good in most of their secret talk, except in the case of those who enjoin charity and kindness, or reconciliation between people. If anyone does that, seeking the pleasure of God, We will give him an immense reward. 115 But if anyone opposes the Messenger after his guidance has become clear to him, and follows a path other than that of the faithful, We shall let him pursue his chosen path and shall cast him into Hell: an evil destination.

116 Surely, God will not forgive the ascribing of partners to Him. He forgives whoever He will for anything other than that. Whoever ascribes partners to God has strayed far indeed. 117 They [the polytheists] call upon female deities, and they invoke none but Satan, the rebellious one, 118 whom God has rejected. He said [to God], 'I will assuredly take a number of Your servants, 119 and shall lead them astray, and fill them with vain desires and order them to slit the ears of cattle. I shall order them to tamper with God's creation. Whoever chooses Satan as a patron instead of God is utterly ruined: 120 he holds out promises to them, and fills them with vain desires: but Satan's promises are nothing but delusion. 121 Hell shall be their home: they shall find no refuge from it. 122 As for those who believe and do good works. We shall admit them to Gardens through which rivers flow; wherein they will abide forever. This is a promise from God; and whose word could be truer than God's?

123 It is not your desires, nor the desires of the People of the Book, that shall prevail. Anyone

who commits evil will be
rewarded accordingly. He will
not find any protector or patron
for himself besides God.
124 Anyone who performs good
deeds, whether it be a man or
woman, provided that he is a
believer, shall enter Paradise.
No one shall suffer the least
injustice. 125 Who is better in
faith than one who submits
himself wholly to God, acts
righteously, and follows the
religion of Abraham, the upright
in faith, whom God chose for a
friend? 126 To God belongs all
that the heavens and earth
contain. God has knowledge of
all things.

127 They consult you
concerning women. Say, 'God
has given you directions
concerning them. The
commandment given to you in
the Book concerns the orphan
girls to whom you do not give
what is prescribed for them, and
whom you nevertheless desire to
marry, and about helpless
children. He has instructed you
to deal justly with orphans. God
has knowledge of all the good
you do. 128 If a woman fears ill-
treatment or indifference on the
part of her husband, it shall be
no offence for her to seek a
reconciliation, for reconciliation
is best. But people are prone to
selfish greed. If you do good and
fear Him, surely God is aware of
what you do. 129 You will never
be able to treat your wives with
equal fairness, however much
you may desire to do so, but do
not ignore one wife altogether,
leaving her suspended [between
marriage and divorce]. And if
you make amends and act
righteously, surely God is most
forgiving and merciful. 130 If they
decide to separate, God will
compensate both out of His
own abundance: God is bountiful
and wise.

131 All that the heavens and
the earth contain belongs to God.
We have commanded those who
were given the Scripture before
you, and We command you to
fear God. If you deny Him, know
that all that the heavens and the
earth contain belongs to God.

God is self-sufficient and
praiseworthy. 132 All that the
heavens and the earth contain
belongs to God; and none is as
worthy of trust as God. 133 If He
wanted, He could remove you
altogether and replace you with
other people: He has the full
power to do so. 134 If one desires
the rewards of this world [let
him remember that] with God
are the rewards of [both] this
world and the life to come:
and God is indeed all hearing,
all seeing.

135 Believers, be strict in
upholding justice and bear
witness for the sake of God, even
though it be against yourselves,
your parents, or your kindred.
Be they rich or poor, God knows
better about them both. Do not,
then, follow your own desires,
lest you swerve from justice. If
you conceal the truth or evade it,
then remember that God is well
aware of all that you do.

136 Believers, believe in God
and His Messenger and in the
Scripture He sent down to His
Messenger, as well as what He
sent down before. He who denies
God, His angels, His Scriptures,
His messengers and the Last
Day has surely gone far astray.
137 As for those who come to
believe, and then deny the truth,
and again come to believe, and
again deny the truth, and
thereafter grow stubborn in their
denial of the truth—God will
never forgive them, nor will He
guide them. 138 Warn the
hypocrites that for them there is
a painful punishment. 139 As for
those who take the deniers of the
truth for their allies rather than
the believers—do they seek
honour in their company? Surely
all honour belongs to God.

140 He has instructed you in
the Book that, when you hear
people deny or ridicule God's
revelations, you must not sit
with them unless they engage in
other talk, or else you yourselves
shall become like them. God
will gather all the hypocrites and
those who deny the truth together
in Hell. 141 The hypocrites wait
to see what happens to you and,
if God grants you a victory, they

say, 'Were we not on your side?' And if those who deny the truth have a share of it [victory] they say to them, 'Did we not help you win, and protect you from the believers?' God will judge between you [all] on Resurrection Day. And never will God allow those who deny the truth to harm the believers.

142 The hypocrites seek to outwit God—but it is He who outwits them. And when they stand up for prayer, they do so reluctantly and to be seen by others, and they hardly remember God at all. 143 They vacillate between the two, belonging neither to one side nor the other. But for him whom God allows to go astray you can never find the way for him. 144 Do not take deniers of the truth [who are at war with you] for your allies in preference to believers. Would you give God a clear proof against yourselves? 145 The hypocrites shall surely be in the lowest depth of the Fire; and you will find no helper for them. 146 But those who repent and mend their ways, who hold fast to God and are sincere in their worship of God will be joined with the believers; and God will bestow a great reward upon the believers. 147 Why should God punish you, if you render thanks to Him and believe in Him? God is appreciative and aware.

148 God does not love the utterance of evil words except in the case of someone who has been wronged. God hears all and knows all. 149 Whether you reveal any good or hide it, or pardon any evil, God is forgiving and all powerful. 150 Those who deny God and His messengers and seek to make a distinction between God and His messengers and say, 'We believe in some messengers and disbelieve in others', and desire to adopt a position in between. 151 Those indeed are they who are denying the truth beyond doubt, and We have prepared a humiliating punishment for the deniers. 152 To those who believe in God and His messengers, and make no distinction between any of them,

to those—We shall surely give them their rewards. God is most forgiving and merciful.

153 The People of the Book ask you to bring down for them a book from heaven. Of Moses they demanded a greater thing than that. They said to him: ‘Show us God face to face.’ A thunderbolt struck them for their wickedness. After that, they took to worshipping the [golden] calf, after all evidence of the truth had come to them! Yet We pardoned even that and bestowed on Moses clear authority. 154 And We raised above them the Mount, while making a covenant with them, and We said to them. ‘Enter the gate humbly,’ and We also commanded them, ‘Transgress not in the matter of the Sabbath.’ We took from them a firm covenant.

155 But they broke their covenant; and they rejected the signs of God; and put the prophets to death without justification, and said, ‘Our hearts are sealed.’ It is God who has sealed their hearts, on account of their denial of the truth. Except for a few of them, they have no faith. 156 They denied the truth and uttered a monstrous slander against Mary. 157 They declared, ‘We have put to death the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, the Messenger of God.’ They did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, but it only seemed to them [as if it had been so]. And those who differ in this matter are in doubt concerning it. They have no definite knowledge about it, but only follow mere conjecture. But they certainly did not kill him. 158 God raised him towards Himself. God is almighty and wise.

159 There is none among the People of the Book but will believe in it before his death; and on the Day of Resurrection he shall be a witness against them. 160 Because of the wrongdoings of the Jews, We forbade them certain good things that had been allowed to them before; for having frequently debarred others from God’s path; 161 for taking usury, when they had been

forbidden to do so. And because of their devouring people's wealth wrongfully. We have prepared a painful punishment for those of them who [continue to] deny the truth. 162 But to those of them, who are firmly grounded in knowledge, and the believers, who truly believe in what is revealed to you, and what was revealed before you. To those who pray regularly and pay the *zakat* [prescribed alms] and believe in God and the Last Day, We will surely give a great reward.

163 We have sent revelation to you [Prophet] as We did to Noah and the prophets who came after him, to Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, and the Tribes, to Jesus, Job, Jonah, Aaron, and Solomon and David, to whom We gave the Psalms. 164 We have told you about some messengers sent previously, while We have not yet told you about others. God spoke to Moses directly. 165 They were messengers, bearing good news and giving warning, so that mankind would have no excuse before God, after the coming of the messengers. God is mighty, wise.[a]

166 But God bears witness to what He has sent down to you. He has sent it down with His knowledge. The angels too bear witness. And God suffices as a witness. 167 Those who are bent on denying the truth and on turning others away from the path of God have strayed far from the right path. 168 God will not forgive those who deny the truth and act wrongfully, nor will He guide them, 169 to any path other than the path of Hell, wherein they shall abide forever. That is easy enough for God. 170 Mankind! The Messenger has brought you the truth from your

---

[a] God created man, and then He created Paradise and Hell. Man was later settled on the earth. Here man has freedom to do as he wishes. But this freedom is not forever. It is temporary and meant for his trial. It is so that good and bad may be distinguished from one another. God is watching those who, despite being granted freedom, can adopt realistic attitudes, and surrender themselves to the will of God.

Lord, so believe for your own
good. And if you deny the truth,
know that to God belongs all that
the heavens and the earth contain.
God is all knowing and wise.

171 People of the Book! Do not
go to extremes in your religion.
Say nothing but the truth about
God. The Christ Jesus, son of
Mary, was only a messenger of
God and His word, conveyed to
Mary, a spirit from Him. So
believe in God and His
messengers and do not say:
'There are three [gods].' Desist,
it will be better for you. Indeed,
God is the one and only God. His
Holiness is far above having a
son. To Him belongs whatever is
in the heavens and whatever is on
the earth. And God is sufficient
as a guardian. 172 Surely, the
Messiah would never disdain to
be accounted a servant of God.
Nor would the angels who are
nearest to Him. If any do disdain
to worship Him, and grow
arrogant, He will in any case
gather them all before Him.
173 Those who believe and do
good works will be fully
recompensed by Him. And He
will give them yet more out of
His bounty; and as for those who
were disdainful and proud, He
will punish them with a painful
punishment. And they will not
find anyone to help or protect
them against God. 174 Men, you
have received clear evidence
from your Lord. We have sent
down a clear light to you.

175 As for those who believe in
God and hold fast to Him, He
will admit them to His mercy
and His grace; He will guide
them towards Him on a straight
path. 176 They ask you for
instruction. Say, 'God instructs
you concerning the indirect heirs.
If a person dies childless but has
a sister, she receives half of what
he leaves, and he is her heir if
she dies childless. If there are
two sisters, they receive two-
thirds of what he leaves. If there
are brothers and sisters, the share
of each male shall be that of two
females. God makes things clear
to you, so that you will not go
astray. God has knowledge of
all things.'

5. THE TABLE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Believers, fulfill your
obligations. All livestock is
lawful for you, other than that
which is hereby announced to
you. You are forbidden to kill
game while you are on a
pilgrimage—God commands
what He will. 2 Believers, violate
neither the sanctity of God’s
signs, the Sacred Month, the
sacrificial animals, the animals
wearing garlands [indicating they
are to be sacrificed] nor those on
their way to the Sacred House
seeking the bounty and pleasure
of their Lord. When, on
completion of your pilgrimage,
you take off the garb of the
pilgrim, you may hunt. Do not
let the enmity of those who
barred you from the Sacred
Mosque lead you into sin. Help
one another in goodness and in
piety. Do not help one another in
sin and transgression. Fear God!
God is severe in punishment.
3 You are forbidden carrion,
blood and pork; and any flesh
over which the name of any
other than God is invoked; and
any creature which has been
strangled, or killed by a blow or
in a fall, or has been gored to
death or half-eaten by a wild
animal, saving that which you
make lawful [by slaughtering
properly while it was still alive]
and what has been slaughtered at
an altar. You are forbidden to
make the division of [meat] by
means of divining arrows: that is
sinful conduct. Those who deny
the truth have this day despaired
of ever harming your religion.
So do not fear them. Fear Me.
Today I have completed your
religion for you and completed
My blessing upon you. I have
chosen for you Islam as your
religion. But if anyone is forced
by hunger to eat something which
is forbidden, not intending to
commit a sin, he will find God
forgiving and merciful.

4 If they ask you what has been
made lawful for them, say, ‘All
good things have been made
lawful for you;’ and what you
have taught your birds and beasts
of prey to catch, training them as
God has taught you. So eat what
they catch for you, but first
pronounce God’s name over it.
Fear God, for God is swift in
taking account. 5 Today, all good
things have been made lawful to
you. The food of the People of
the Book is lawful to you, and
your food is lawful to them. The
chaste believing women and the
chaste women of the people who
were given the Book before you,
are lawful to you, provided that
you give them their dowers, and
marry them, neither committing
fornication nor taking them as
mistresses. The deeds of anyone
who rejects the faith will come
to nothing, and in the Hereafter
he will be among the losers.

6 Believers, when you rise to
pray, wash your faces and your
hands up to the elbows and wipe
your heads and [wash] your feet
up to the ankles. If you are in a
state of impurity, take a full bath.
Should you be ill or on a journey
or when you have just relieved
yourselves, or you have
consorted with your spouses,
purify yourself by bathing. If
you can find no water, take some
clean sand and rub your faces
and hands with it. God does not
wish to place any burden on you;
He only wishes to purify you and
perfect His favour to you, in
order that you may be grateful.

7 Remember God’s favour to
you, and the covenant, which He
made with you when you said,
‘We hear and we obey.’ Fear
God. God has full knowledge of
the innermost thoughts of men.
8 Believers, be steadfast in the
cause of God and bear witness
with justice. Do not let your
enmity for others turn you away
from justice. Deal justly; that is
nearer to being God-fearing. Fear
God. God is aware of all that you
do. 9 God has promised those
who believe and do good deeds
forgiveness and a great reward;
10 but those who deny the truth
and deny Our signs are destined

for Hell. [11] Believers, remember
the blessings which God
bestowed upon you when a
certain people were about to lay
hands on you and He held back
their hands from you. Have fear
of God and in God let the
believers place their trust.

[12] God made a covenant with
the Children of Israel; and raised
among them twelve leaders. God
said, 'Surely, I am with you. If
you attend to your prayers and
pay the alms and believe in My
messengers and support them,
and give a generous loan to God,
I will certainly forgive you your
sins and admit you into Gardens
through which rivers flow.
Whoever among you denies the
truth after this shall go astray
from the straight path.' [13] Since
they broke their solemn pledge,
We laid on them Our curse and
hardened their hearts. They
distorted the meaning of the
revealed words, taking them out
of their context, and forgot much
of what they were enjoined. You
will constantly discover treachery
on their part, except for a few of
them. But pardon them, and bear
with them; truly, God loves the
doers of good.

[14] We also made a covenant
with those who say, 'We are
Christians.' But they too have
forgotten much of what they
were enjoined. So, We have put
enmity and hatred between them
till the Day of Judgement; and
soon God will declare to them
what they have been doing.

[15] People of the Book! Our
Messenger has come to make
clear to you much of what you
have hidden of the Scriptures
and to forgive you much. A light
has now come to you from God
and a clear Book, [16] whereby
God guides to the ways of peace
all who seek His good pleasure,
bringing them from darkness to
the light, by His will, and guiding
them to a straight path. [17] In
blasphemy indeed are those who
say, 'God is Christ, the son of
Mary.' Say, 'Who then could
prevent God if He so willed
from destroying Christ, son of
Mary, and his mother and
everyone on earth? The kingdom

of the heavens and the earth and everything between them belong to God. He creates what He will and God has power over all things.'

18 The Jews and the Christians say, 'We are the children of God and His beloved ones.' Say, 'Then why does He punish you for your sins? Indeed, you are but human beings among those He has created. He forgives whom He pleases and punishes whom He pleases. The kingdom of the heavens and the earth and all that is between them, belong to God and all shall return to
Him.' 19 People of the Book, Our Messenger has come to you to make things clear to you after an interval between the messengers, lest you say, 'No bearer of glad tidings and no warner has come to us.' So a bearer of glad tidings and a warner has indeed come to you. God has the power to do all things.

20 Remember when Moses said to his people, 'O my people! Remember God's favour to you, He has raised up prophets among you, made you kings, and granted you [favours] such as He has not granted to anyone else in the
world. 21 O my people! Enter the holy land which God has assigned for you. Do not turn back, or you will be the losers.'
22 They said, 'Moses, in that land there is a powerful people. Never shall we enter it until they leave it: if they leave, then we shall
certainly enter it.' 23 Thereupon two God-fearing men whom God had blessed said, 'Go into them through the gate—for as soon as you enter, you shall surely be victorious! Put your trust in God
if you are true believers.' 24 They said, 'We will never enter it, Moses, as long as they are there. Go, you and your Lord, and fight, and we will stay here.'

25 Moses supplicated, 'Lord, I have power over none but myself and my brother; so separate us from the disobedient people.'
26 God said, 'The land is forbidden to them for forty years, while they wander around the earth, bewildered; do not grieve over these wicked people.'

27 Relate to them, the true story

of the two sons of Adam. When they both presented an offering, it was accepted from one of them and not from the other. The latter said, ‘I shall kill you!’ The former said, ‘God accepts [things] only from the righteous. 28 If you raise your hand to kill me, I will not raise mine to kill you. I fear God, the Lord of the Universe, 29 and I want you to bear your sins against me as well as your own sins and become an inhabitant of the Fire. Such is the reward of the wrongdoers.’

30 His lower self persuaded him to kill his brother, and he killed him and he became one of the lost. 31 Then God sent a raven, which scratched the earth, so that He might show him how to hide the corpse of his brother. ‘Alas!’ he cried, ‘Am I not able even to be like this raven, so that I may hide the corpse of my brother?’ And he repented.

32 That was why We laid it down for the Children of Israel that whoever killed a human being—except as a punishment for murder or for spreading corruption in the land— shall be regarded as having killed all mankind, and that whoever saved a human life shall be regarded as having saved all mankind. Our messengers came to them with clear signs, but many of them continued to commit excesses in the land. 33 Those that make war against God and His Messenger and spread disorder in the land shall be put to death or crucified or have their hands and feet cut off on alternate sides, or be banished from the country. They shall be disgraced in this world, and then severely punished in the Hereafter, 34 except for those who repent before you gain power over them: for you must know that God is forgiving and merciful.

35 Believers, fear God and seek ways to come closer to Him and strive for His cause, so that you may prosper. 36 As for those who reject Faith, if they had everything on earth, and twice as much again and offered it to ransom themselves from the torment of the Day of

Resurrection, it shall not be
accepted from them—they will
have a painful punishment.
37 They will want to get out of
the Fire but they will be unable
to do so: theirs shall be a lasting
punishment. 38 Cut off the hands
of thieves, whether they are male
or female, as a [deterrent]
punishment from God for what
they have done. God is almighty
and wise. 39 But God will surely
turn in mercy to him who repents
after his transgression and
reforms. Surely, God is most
forgiving and ever merciful.
40 Do you not know that the
kingdom of the heavens and
earth belongs to God? He
punishes whom He will and
forgives whom He pleases. God
has power over all things.

41 Messenger, do not be grieved
by those who vie with one
another in denying the truth;
those who say with their tongues,
'We believe,' but have no faith
in their hearts; from among the
Jews also, there are those who
listen eagerly to any lies. They
listen to you to convey to others
[religious leaders] who do not
come to you [out of pride and
conceit]. They [these leaders]
take words out of their context
and say, 'If this be given to you,
receive it, but if not, then
beware!' If anyone's trial is
intended by God, you cannot in
the least prevail against God on
his behalf. Those whose hearts
God does not intend to purify
shall be subjected to disgrace in
this world and a severe
punishment in the Hereafter.

42 They listen eagerly to
falsehood, and devour forbidden
things voraciously. If they come
to you, then judge between them
or avoid them. If you avoid
them, they can in no way harm
you, but if you do judge, judge
them with fairness: God loves
those that deal justly. 43 But why
do they come to you for
judgement when they have the
Torah, which enshrines God's
own judgement? Yet, in spite of
that, they turn their backs; and
certainly they will not believe.

44 We have revealed the Torah,
in which there is guidance and

light. By it the prophets who were obedient to Us judged the Jews, and so did the rabbis and the priests, according to God's Book which had been entrusted to their care; and to which they were witnesses. Have no fear of man; fear Me, and do not sell My revelations for a paltry sum. Those who do not judge by what God has sent down are deniers of truth. [45] We prescribed for them in [the Torah]: a life for a life, an eye for an eye, a nose for a nose, an ear for an ear, a tooth for a tooth, and a wound for a wound. But, if anyone forgoes it, this shall be for him an expiation. Those who do not judge by what God has sent down are wrongdoers! [46] We caused Jesus, son of Mary to follow in their footsteps, fulfilling what had been revealed before him in the Torah. We gave him the Gospel, which contained guidance and light, fulfilling what was revealed before it in the Torah: a guide and an admonition to the God-fearing. [47] Therefore, let those who follow the Gospel judge according to what God has revealed in it. Those who do not judge by what God has sent down are rebellious.

[48] We have sent down the Book to you with the truth, fulfilling [the predictions] revealed in the previous scriptures and determining what is true therein, and as a guardian over it. Judge, therefore, between them by what God has revealed, and do not follow their vain desires turning away from the truth that has come to you. To every one of you We have ordained a law and a way, and had God so willed, He would have made you all a single community, but He did not so will, in order that He might try you by what He has given you. Vie, then, with one another in doing good works; to God you shall all return; then He will make clear to you about what you have been disputing.

[49] Judge between them by what God has sent down and do not be led by their desires. Beware of them lest they turn you away from a part of that what God has revealed to you. If they reject your judgement, know that God

intends to punish them for the sins they have committed. Indeed a large number of the people are disobedient. [50] Is it pagan laws that they wish to be judged by? Who is a better judge than God for men whose faith is firm?

[51] Believers, do not take the Jews and Christians as allies. They are allies with one another. Whoever of you takes them as an ally shall become one of them. God does not guide the wrongdoers. [52] You will see those whose minds are diseased hastening towards them, saying, 'We fear lest a misfortune befall us.' But God may well bring about victory or make a decision which is favourable to you. Then they will repent of the thoughts, which they secretly harboured in their hearts. [53] Then the believers will say, 'Are these the men who swore their strongest oaths by God, that they were with you?' Their works will come to nothing and they will lose all.

[54] Believers, if any among you renounce the faith, God will replace them by others who love Him and are loved by Him, who will be kind and considerate towards believers and firm and unyielding towards those who deny the truth. They will strive hard for the cause of God and will in no way take to heart the reproaches of the fault finder. Such is God's bounty, which He gives to anyone He wishes. God is bountiful and all-knowing. [55] Your helpers are only God and His Messenger and the believers who say their prayers and pay the alms and bow down in worship. [56] Those who ally themsleves with God, His Messenger, and the believers must know that God's party is sure to triumph.

[57] Believers! Do not seek the friendship of those who were given the Book before you or the disbelievers who ridicule your religion and make a jest of it.[a] Have fear of God, if you are true believers. [58] When you call them to prayer, they treat it as a jest and a diversion. This is because

[a] See note to 3:28.

they are devoid of understanding.
[59] Say, 'People of the Book! Do
you resent us only because we
believe in God and in what has
been revealed to us and to others
before, and because most of you
are disobedient?' [60] Say, 'Shall I
tell you who will receive a worse
reward from God? Those whom
God has rejected and with whom
He has been angry transforming
them into apes and swine, and
those who serve the devil.[a] They
were condemned as apes and
swine and those who worship
the evil. These are in the worst
plight and farthest astray from
the right path.'

[61] When they come to you they
say, 'We believe,' but they come
[with the resolve] to deny the
truth and leave in the same state.
God knows best what they are
concealing. [62] You see many
among them vie with one another
in sin and transgression and
practice what is unlawful. It is
vile indeed what they have been
doing! [63] Why do their rabbis
and scholars not forbid them to
utter sinful words or to consume
what is unlawful? Their actions
are indeed vile.

[64] The Jews say, 'The hand of
God is tied up.' May their own
hands be tied up and may they be
cursed for what they say. No
indeed! His hands are both
outstretched: He bestows as He
will. What is revealed to you
from your Lord will surely
increase in most of them their
obstinate rebellion and denial of
truth; and We have sown among
them enmity and hatred till the
Day of Resurrection. Whenever
they kindle the fire of war, God
puts it out. They spread evil in
the land, but God does not love
the evil-doers.

[65] If only the People of the
Book would believe and be
mindful of God, We would surely
pardon their sins and We would
surely admit them into the
Gardens of Bliss. [66] If they had

---

[a] It is not in a literal sense but has a symbolic conotation, describing their moral degradation. They were not converted to such animals in physical sense, but their character and behaviour became like apes and swine.

observed the Torah and the
Gospel and what was revealed to
them from their Lord, they would
surely have been nourished from
above and from below. There are
some among them who are on
the right course; but there are
many among them who do
nothing but evil.
67 O Messenger, deliver
whatever has been sent down to
you by your Lord. If you do not
do so, you will not have conveyed
His message. God will defend
you from mankind. For God does
not guide those who deny the truth.
68 Say, 'People of the Book,
you have no ground to stand on
until you observe the Torah and
the Gospel and what is revealed
to you from your Lord.' What is
revealed to you from your Lord
will surely increase many of them
in rebellion and in their denial of
the truth. But do not grieve for
those who deny the truth.
69 Believers, Jews, Sabaeans and
Christians—whoever believes in
God and the Last Day and does
what is right—shall have nothing
to fear nor shall they grieve.
70 We made a covenant with
the Children of Israel and sent
forth messengers among them.
But whenever a messenger came
to them with a message that was
not to their liking, some they
accused of lying, while others
they put to death, 71 and they
imagined that no harm would
come to them; and so they
became blind and deaf [of heart].
God turned to them in mercy; yet
again many of them became blind
and deaf. God is fully aware of
their actions.
72 Indeed, they are deniers of
the truth who say, 'God is the
Christ, the son of Mary.' For the
Christ himself said, 'Children of
Israel, serve God, my Lord and
your Lord.' If anyone associates
anything with God, God will
forbid him the Garden and the
Fire will be his home. The
wrongdoers shall have no
helpers. 73 They are deniers of
the truth who say, 'God is one of
three.' There is only One God. If
they do not desist from so saying,
a painful punishment is bound to
befall such of them as are bent

on denying the truth. 74 Why do they not turn to God and ask for His forgiveness? God is forgiving and merciful. 75 Christ, son of Mary, was no more than a messenger. Many messengers passed away before him. His mother was a virtuous woman; and they both ate food [like other mortals]. See how We make the signs clear to them! See how they turn away! 76 Say, ‘Do you worship something other than God, that has no power to do you harm or good? God alone is the All Hearing and All Knowing.’

77 Say, ‘People of the Book! Do not go to extremes in your religion and do not follow the whims of those who went astray before you—they caused many to go astray and themselves strayed away from the right path.’

78 Those of the Children of Israel who were bent on denying the truth were cursed by David and Jesus, the son of Mary. That was because they disobeyed and were given to transgression; 79 they would not prevent one another from doing the wrong things they did. Evil indeed were their deeds. 80 You see many among them allying themselves with those who deny the truth. Evil is that which their souls have sent on ahead for them. They have incurred the wrath of God and shall suffer eternal punishment. 81 Had they believed in God and the Prophet and what was revealed to him, they would not have taken those who deny the truth as their allies, but many of them are disobedient.

82 You will find that the bitterest in their enmity to the faithful are the Jews and the polytheists; the nearest in affection to them are those who say, ‘We are Christians.’ That is because there are priests and monks among them; and because they are free from pride. 83 When they listen to what has been sent down to the Messenger, you see their eyes overflowing with tears, because of the Truth they recognize. They say, ‘Our Lord, we believe, so count us among those who bear witness. 84 Why should we not believe in God

and in the truth that has come
down to us? We yearn for our
Lord to admit us among the
righteous.' 85 And for their words
God will reward them with
Gardens through which rivers flow,
wherein they shall abide forever.
That is the reward of those who
do good. 86 But those who deny
the truth and deny Our signs will
become the inmates of Hell.

87 Believers, do not forbid the
wholesome good things, which
God made lawful to you. Do not
transgress; God does not love
the transgressors. 88 Eat the
lawful and wholesome things,
which God has given you. Fear
God, in whom you believe.
89 God will not call you to
account for your meaningless
oaths, but He will call you to
account for the oaths, which you
swear in earnest. The expiation
for a broken oath is the feeding
of ten needy men with such food
as you normally offer to your
own people; or the clothing of
ten needy men; or the freeing of
one slave. Anyone who lacks the
means shall fast for three days.
That is the expiation of your
breaking the oaths that you have
sworn. Do keep your oaths. Thus
God explains to you His
commandments, so that you may
be grateful.

90 Believers, intoxicants and
gambling and [occult dedication
of] stones and divining arrows
are abominations devised by
Satan. Avoid them, so that you
may prosper. 91 Satan seeks to
sow enmity and hatred among
you by means of wine and
gambling, and to keep you from
the remembrance of God and
from your prayers. Will you not
then abstain? 92 Obey God and
obey the Messenger, and be ever
on your guard [against evil]. But
if you turn away, then know that
Our Messenger's duty is only to
deliver the message clearly.
93 Those who believe and do
good deeds will not be blamed
for what they may have
consumed [in the past], so long
as they fear God and believe in
Him and do good works; so long
as they fear God and believe in
Him, so long as they fear God

and do good deeds. For God loves those who do good.

94 Believers, God will test you with game which come within the reach of your hands and spears, so that He may know those who fear Him, even if they cannot see Him. Anyone who oversteps the limits after this will have a painful punishment. 95 Believers, do not kill any game while you are on a pilgrimage. Anyone of you who kills game deliberately shall make compensation with an animal which is the equivalent of what he has killed, to be determined by two just men from among you, as an offering brought to the Ka‘bah; or he shall, in expiation, either feed the poor or do the equivalent of that in fasting, so that he may taste the consequence of his deeds. God forgives what is past, but if anyone relapses into wrongdoing, God will exact His retribution. God is mighty, the Lord of retribution.

96 To hunt and to eat the fish of the sea is made lawful for you, a provision made for you and for seafarers. But you are forbidden the game of the land while you are on a pilgrimage. Have fear of God, before whom you shall all be gathered. 97 God has made the Ka‘bah, the Sacred House, a means of support as well as the sacred month and the sacrificial animals with their garlands. That is so that you may know that God has knowledge of whatever is in the heavens and on the earth and that He is fully aware of all things. 98 Know that God is severe in punishment, yet most forgiving and merciful. 99 The Messenger’s sole duty is to convey the message. God knows what you reveal and what you hide. 100 Say, ‘The bad and the good are not alike, even though the abundance of the bad may appear pleasing to you. So fear God, O men of understanding, so that you may prosper.’

101 Believers, do not ask questions about things which, if they were made known to you, would only become burdensome for you; but if you ask them

when the Quran is being revealed, they shall be made plain to you—God has kept silent about them: God is most forgiving and forbearing. 102 Other people before you enquired about such things, but when they were disclosed to them, they refused to carry them out. 103 God has ordained no sanctity about animals described as *bahirah*, or *sa'ibah*, or *wasilah* or *ham*.[a] Those who deny the truth invent falsehoods about God. Most of them do not use their reason: 104 when it is said to them, 'Come to what God has sent down and to the Messenger.' They reply, 'The faith we have inherited from our fathers is sufficient for us.' Even though their forefathers knew nothing and were not guided! 105 Believers, take care of your own souls. The misguided cannot harm you as long as you are guided. All of you will return to God. Then He will make you realize that which you used to do.

106 Believers, when death approaches you, let two just men from among you act as witnesses when you make your testaments; or two men from another tribe, if the calamity of death overtakes you while you are travelling in the land. Detain them after prayers, and if you doubt their honesty, let them swear by God, 'We will not sell our testimony for any price, even to a kinsman. And we will not conceal the testimony of God. If we did, we would indeed be guilty of sin.' 107 If it turns out that both prove dishonest, two others should take their place from amongst those whose rights have been usurped and let them swear by God, saying, 'Our testimony is indeed truer than the testimony of these two. And we have not been guilty of any misstatement for then indeed we would be transgressors.' 108 That makes it more likely that people will bear true witness, or else they will

[a] These are different categories of domestic animals which the pre-Islamic Arabs used to dedicate to their deities.

fear that their oaths will be contradicted by the oaths of others. Heed God and listen; God does not guide a rebellious, disobedient people.

109 The Day when God assembles the messengers and asks them, 'What was the response you received [from the people]?' they will reply, 'We have no knowledge of it. You alone know what is hidden.'
110 Then God will say, 'Jesus, son of Mary, remember My favour to you and to your mother: how I strengthened you with the holy spirit, so that you could speak to people in childhood and in maturity; and how I taught you the Book, and wisdom, the Torah and the Gospel; how by My leave you fashioned from clay the shape of a bird and blew upon it, so that, by My leave, it became a bird, and healed the blind and the leper by My permission, and when you brought forth the dead by My permission; and how I prevented the Children of Israel from harming you when you came to them with clear signs, when those of them who denied the truth said, "This is sheer magic."

111 [Remember the time], when I inspired the disciples to believe in Me and in My messenger, they replied, "We believe, bear witness that we have submitted."'
112 When the disciples said, 'O Jesus, son of Mary! Can your Lord send down to us from heaven a table spread with food?' He replied, 'Have fear of God, if you are true believers.' 113 They said, 'We want to eat from it, so that we may satisfy our hearts and know that you have told us the truth, and that we should be witnesses of it.' 114 Jesus, son of Mary, said, 'O God, our Lord! Send down for us a table spread with food from heaven, so that it may be a feast for us, for the first of us and for the last of us: a sign from You. Give us our sustenance, for You are the best of sustainers.' 115 God replied, 'I will certainly send it down to you, but whosoever of you deny the truth thereafter will be punished with a punishment such

as I have never meted out to anyone else in the world.'

[116] When God says, 'Jesus, son of Mary, did you say to people, "Take me and my mother as two deities besides God"?' He will answer, 'Glory be to You! How could I ever say that to which I have no right? If I had ever said so, You would surely have known it. You know what is in my mind, while I do not know anything that is within Yours. You alone are the knower of unseen things—[117] I told them only what You commanded me to, "Worship God, my Lord and your Lord." I was a witness to what they did as long as I remained among them, and when You did cause me to die, You were the watcher over them. You are the witness of all things, [118] and if You punish them, they are surely Your servants; and if You forgive them, You are surely the Mighty and Wise.'

[119] God will say, 'This is the Day when the truthful will benefit from their truthfulness. They shall forever dwell in Gardens through which rivers flow. God is pleased with them and they with Him: that is the supreme triumph. [120] The kingdom of the heavens and the earth and everything in them belongs to God: He has power over all things.

6. THE CATTLE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] Praise be to God, who has created the heavens and the earth and brought into being darkness and light. Yet those who deny the truth set up equals to their Lord! [2] It is He who has created you out of clay, and then has decreed a term [for you]—a term known [only] to Him. Yet you are still in doubt— [3] He is God both in the heavens and on earth. He has knowledge of all that you hide and all that you reveal. He knows what you do; [4] yet every

time a sign comes to them from
their Lord, they turn away from
it. 5 They have rejected truth
whenever it came to them, yet
[more] news will reach them
concerning what they have been
making a mockery of. 6 Have
they not seen how many
generations We destroyed before
them? We established them on
the earth more firmly than you,
and We sent the clouds over
them, pouring down abundant
rain; and made the rivers flow at
their feet. Yet We destroyed them
for their sins, and raised up other
generations after them.

7 But even if We had sent
down to you a Book written on
parchment, and they had touched
it with their own hands—those
who deny the truth would still
have said, 'This is mere magic.'
8 They ask, 'Why has an angel
not been sent down to him?' If
We did send down an angel, the
matter would be settled and they
would not have been granted any
respite. 9 Indeed, if We had sent
an angel as messenger, We would
have made him in the form of a
man as well, and would have
thus added to their confusion.
10 Messengers have been mocked
before you, but those who scoffed
were overtaken by the very thing
they scoffed at. 11 Say, 'Travel
about the land and see what was
the end of the deniers.'

12 Say, 'To whom belongs all
that is in the heavens and earth?'
Say, 'To God. He has taken it
upon Himself to be merciful.
That He will gather you on the
Day of Resurrection is beyond
all doubt. Those who have
forfeited their souls will never
have faith.' 13 To Him belongs
all that dwells in the night and
the day. He is the All Hearing
and the All Knowing. 14 Say,
'Shall I take as my protector
someone other than God, Creator
of the heavens and the earth,
who feeds all and is fed by
none?' Say, 'I have been
commanded to be the first of
those who submit. Do not be one
of the polytheists.' 15 Say, 'I will
never disobey my Lord, for I fear
the punishment of a dreadful
Day.' 16 Anyone from whom

punishment is averted on that
Day has been shown great
mercy by God. That is a supreme
achievement.

17 If God should let any harm
touch you, no one could remove
it except He; while if He should
let some good touch you, know
that He has the power to do all
that He wills. 18 He reigns
Supreme over His servants; and
He is the All Wise, the All Aware.
19 Ask them, ‘What carries the
most weight as a witness?’ Tell
them it is God. He is a witness
between you and me. Say, ‘This
Quran has been revealed to me
so that through it I may warn you
and whoever it reaches. Do you
really bear witness that there are
other deities beside God?’ Say,
‘I do not bear witness to this.’
Say, ‘He is only one God, and I
disown whatever you associate
with Him.’

20 Those to whom We have
given the Scriptures know this
as they know their own sons. But
those who have ruined their souls
will not believe. 21 Who does
greater wrong than he who
invents a lie against God and
denies His signs? Assuredly, the
wrongdoers will not succeed.
22 On the Day when We gather
them all together, We will say to
those who associated [others with
Us], ‘Where are those partners
that you claimed?’ 23 Then they
will have no excuse but to say,
‘By God our Lord, we have
never been polytheists.’ 24 See
how they lie to themselves, and
how those [the deities] they
invented have deserted them.

25 Among them are some who
listen to you, but We have placed
veils over their hearts and
deafness in their ears which
prevent them from understanding
what you say. Even if they saw
all the signs, they would still not
believe in them. When those
who deny the truth come to
dispute with you, they will say,
‘This is nothing but ancient
fables,’ 26 and they bar others
from believing and themselves
keep away. But they ruin no one
but themselves, though they fail
to realize this. 27 If you could
only see when they are set before

the Fire. They will say, ‘If only
we could be sent back. Then we
would not deny the signs of our
Lord and we would be of the
believers.’ 28 The truth they used
to hide will become all too clear
to them. But if they were sent
back, they would return to what
they had been forbidden. For
they are indeed liars.

29 They say, ‘There is nothing
beyond our life in this world: we
shall not be raised up again from
the dead.’ 30 If you could only
see when they are made to stand
before their Lord! He will ask
them, ‘Is this [second life] not
the truth?’ They will say, ‘Yes,
by our Lord!’ He will say, ‘Then,
taste the punishment that comes
from your having refused to
acknowledge the truth!’

31 Those indeed are the losers
who deny the meeting with God.
When the Hour comes on them
suddenly, they cry, ‘Alas for us,
that we neglected it!’ They shall
bear their burdens on their backs.
Evil are the burdens they shall
bear. 32 The life of this world is
but a sport and a pastime. Surely
the Home of the Hereafter is best
for those who fear God. Will you
not understand?

33 We know that what they say
grieves you. It is not you that the
wrongdoers are rejecting, rather
it is the signs of God that they
reject. 34 Other messengers have
been denied before you, and
they bore their rejection and
persecution steadfastly, until Our
help came to them. There is no
one who can change the words
of God. You have already
received some account of those
messengers. 35 If you find their
rejection hard to bear, then seek
a tunnel into the ground or a
ladder into the sky, if you can,
and bring them a sign. Had God
so willed, He would indeed have
given them all [His] guidance.
So do not be among the ignorant.
36 Only they who listen can
respond to a call; and as for the
dead, God will raise them up,
and then they will all return to
Him.

37 They ask, ‘Why has no sign
been sent down to him from his
Lord?’ Say, ‘God alone has the

power to send down a sign.' But
most of them do not understand:
38 there is not an animal that
moves about on the earth, nor a
bird that flies on its two wings,
but are creatures like you. We
have left out nothing in the
Book—they shall all be gathered
before their Lord. 39 Those who
reject Our signs are deaf and
dumb, [groping along] in
darkness. God lets anyone He
wishes go astray and sets whoever
He will on a straight path.

40 Say, 'Tell me if the
punishment of God came upon
you or the Hour overtook you,
would you call upon any other
than God, if you are truthful?'
41 Indeed, it is on Him that you
would call, and He could remove
that [affliction] which made you
call on Him, if He will, and then
you would forget [the false
deities] which you associate with
Him!'

42 We sent messengers before
you [Prophet] to many
communities and afflicted their
people with suffering and
hardship, so that they might
humble themselves. 43 When the
affliction decreed by Us befell
them, they did not humble
themselves, but rather their hearts
hardened, for Satan had made all
their doings seem fair to them.
44 When they had forgotten Our
admonition, We granted them all
that they desired; but just as they
were rejoicing in what they were
given, We seized them suddenly
and they were plunged into
despair. 45 The wrongdoers were
thus annihilated. All praise be to
God, the Lord of the Worlds.

46 Say, 'If God should take
away your hearing and your sight
and seal your hearts, who is the
deity who could restore it to you
save God?' See how We explain
the signs to them in diverse
ways, yet they turn away. 47 Ask
them, 'Tell me, if the punishment
of God came upon you suddenly
or predictably, would any but the
wrongdoers be destroyed?' 48 We
send the messengers only to give
good news and to warn, so those
who believe and reform
themselves need have no
fear, nor will they grieve.

49 Chastisement will befall those
who reject Our signs because of
their disobedience. 50 Say, ‘I do
not say to you that I possess the
treasures of God, nor do I know
the unseen, nor do I say to you
that I am an angel. I follow only
that which is revealed to me.’
Say, ‘Are the blind and the seeing
alike? Can you not then think?’
51 Warn by it those who fear to
be gathered before their Lord,
when they have no guardian or
intercessor besides God, so that
they may become God-fearing.
52 Do not send away those who
call upon their Lord in the
morning and in the evening,
seeking only His grace. You are
not by any means accountable
for them, nor are they
accountable for you. If you turn
them away, you yourself will
become one of the unjust. 53 In
this way We try some of them by
means of others, so that they
may ask, ‘Are these [lowly ones]
whom God has singled out for
His favours from among us?
Does God not know best who
are the grateful ones?’
54 When those who believe in
Our revelations come to you,
say, ‘Peace be upon you. Your
Lord has taken it upon Himself
to be merciful. So that if any one
among you does evil in ignorance
and repents thereafter and makes
amends, then He is most
forgiving and ever merciful.’
55 Thus We make plain Our signs,
so that the path of the evil-doers
might be laid bare.
56 Say, ‘I am forbidden to
worship those you call upon
besides God.’ Say, ‘I do not
follow your whims and desires.
If I did, I would go astray and
cease to be rightly guided.’ 57 Say,
‘I stand by the clear evidence
from my Lord, yet you deny it.
What you seek to hasten is not
within my power. Judgement is
for God alone. He declares the
truth. He is the best of judges.’
58 Say, ‘If what you seek to hasten
were within my power, the matter
would be settled between you
and me. God best knows the
evil-doers.’ 59 He holds the keys
to the unseen; none knows them
but He. He has knowledge of all

that land and sea contain. No
leaf falls without His knowledge,
nor is there a single grain in the
darkness of the earth, or anything,
wet or dry, but is recorded in a
clear Record.

60 It is He who gathers you in
at night and knows all that you
do by day; then He raises you up
during the day so that an
appointed term may be
completed. Then to Him you
shall return and He will declare
to you all that you used to do.
61 He is the Absolute Master over
His servants. He sends forth
guardians [angels] who watch
over you until, when death
approaches one of you, Our
angels take his soul, and they
never fail in their duty. 62 Then
they will all be returned to God,
their true Lord. The Judgement
is His alone. He is the swiftest
reckoner.

63 Say, 'Who is it who delivers
you from the dark depths of land
and sea when you call out to Him
humbly and in secret, saying, "If
He rescues us from this, we shall
most certainly be among the
grateful."?' 64 Say, 'It is God
who delivers you from it and
from every other distress, yet
you associate partners with Him.'
65 Say, 'He has the power to send
punishment on you from above
your heads or from beneath your
feet, or to divide you in sects and
make you taste one another's
violence.' See how We explain
Our revelations in various ways,
so that they may understand.
66 Your people have rejected the
message We have sent through
you, though it is the truth. Say 'I
am not your keeper. 67 Every
prophecy has its fixed time to be
fulfilled: and soon you will come
to know.'

68 When you see people
engaged in finding fault with
Our revelations, withdraw from
them until they turn to some
other topic. Should Satan cause
you to forget this, take leave of
the wrongdoers as soon as you
remember. 69 The God-fearing
are not in any way held
accountable for the wrongdoers;
their only duty is to remind them,
so that they may fear God.

70 Leave alone those for whom
religion is only a sport and
pastime and are deceived by the
life of this world, but continue to
remind them with the Quran,
lest a soul be held in pledge
because of what it has wrought,
having no helper or intercessor
besides God. Whatever ransom
they may offer, it will not be
accepted. Such are those that are
damned by their own actions:
they will have boiling water to
drink and a painful punishment
for their denial of truth.
71 Say, 'Instead of God, shall
we call upon that which can
neither benefit us nor harm us?
Are we to turn upon our heels
after God has guided us, like one
who, beguiled by devils in the
land, wanders bewildered, his
companions calling him to the
right path, saying, "Come to
us"?' Say, 'God's guidance is
the only guidance. We are
commanded to surrender
ourselves to the Lord of the
Universe, 72 say our prayers
regularly and to fear God.' He it
is to whom you will be gathered.'
73 It was He who created the
heavens and the earth for a true
purpose. On the Day when He
says, 'Be,' it shall be: His word is
the truth. All sovereignty shall be
His on the Day when the trumpet
is sounded. The Knower of the
unseen and the visible, He is the
Wise, the Aware One. 74 Remember
when Abraham said to his father,
Azar, 'Do you take idols as your
gods? I see that you and your
people have clearly gone astray.'
75 In this way We showed
Abraham Our kingdom of the
heavens and the earth, so that he
might have certainty of faith.
76 When night descended on him,
he saw a star. He said, 'This is
my Lord!' Then when it set he
said, 'I do not love things that
set.' 77 When he saw the moon
rise and spread its light, he said,
'This is my Lord.' But when it
set, he said, 'If my Lord does not
guide me, I will be one of the
misguided people.' 78 Then,
when he saw the sun shining, he
said, 'This is my Lord! This is
the greatest of all!' Then when it
set, he said, 'My people, I disown

all that you worship besides God.
79 I have set my face with single-
minded devotion, towards Him
who has created the heavens and
the earth, and I am not one of the
polytheists.' 80 His people argued
with him. He said, 'Are you
arguing with me about God,
while He has guided me? I have
no fear of any partner you ascribe
to Him, unless my Lord should
wish otherwise. My Lord
encompasses all things in His
knowledge, so will you not pay
heed? 81 Why should I fear what
you associate with Him, while
you do not fear to associate with
God that for which He has sent
down to you no authority? Tell
me, if you know the truth, which
side has more right to feel secure.
82 It is those who have faith, and
do not mix their faith with
wrongdoing, who will be secure,
and it is they who are rightly
guided.' 83 This is the reasoning
We gave to Abraham against his
people—We raise in rank anyone
We please—your Lord is wise
and aware. 84 We gave him Isaac
and Jacob, each of whom We
guided as We had guided Noah
before. Among his descendants
were David and Solomon, and
Job, Joseph, Moses and Aaron.
Thus do We reward the righteous.
85 Zachariah, John, Jesus, and
Elijah—every one of them was
righteous—86 Ishmael, Elisha,
Jonah, and Lot—We favoured
each one of them above other
people, 87 and also some of their
forefathers, their offspring, and
their brothers: We chose them
and guided them to a straight
path. 88 This is the guidance of
God: He gives that guidance to
whichever of His servants He
pleases. If they had associated
other deities with Him, surely all
they did would have been of no
avail. 89 Those are the ones to
whom We gave the Scripture,
wisdom, and prophethood. If
these people [the Makkans] reject
it, We shall entrust it to a people
who will never refuse to
acknowledge it. 90 Those [the
previous prophets] were the
people whom God guided.
Follow their guidance then and
say, 'I ask no reward for this

from you: it is only a reminder
for all mankind.' 91 They do not
make a just estimate of God,
when they say, 'God has not
revealed anything to any human
being.' Say, 'Who revealed the
Book which Moses brought, a
light and guidance for the people,
which you made into separate
sheets, showing some but hiding
many? You have been taught
things that neither you nor your
forefathers had known before.'
Say, 'God has sent it;' then leave
them toying away with their
speculation.

92 This is a blessed Book which
We have revealed, confirming
what came before it, so that you
may warn the Mother of Cities
[Makkah] and the people around
it. Those who believe in the
Hereafter do believe in it, and
they are ever-mindful of their
prayers. 93 Who could do greater
wrong than someone who invents
a lie against God or who says, 'It
has been revealed to me,' while
nothing has been revealed to
him, or someone who says, 'I
will send down the like of what
God has sent down'? If you
could only see the wrongdoers in
the throes of death when the
angels are stretching out their
hands, saying, 'Give up your
souls. Today you will be repaid
with a humiliating punishment
for saying false things about
God and being arrogant about
His signs.'

94 And now you have returned
to Us, alone as We created you at
first, leaving behind all that We
gave you. Nor do We see with
you your intercessors, those you
claimed were your partners with
God. The link between you is cut
and that which you presumed
has failed you. 95 It is God who
splits the seed and the fruit-
stone. He brings forth the living
from the dead, and the dead from
the living. That is God. How
then can you, deluded, turn away
from the truth?

96 He causes the break of day,
and has made the night for rest
and He made the sun and the
moon to a precise measure. That
is the measure determined by the
All Mighty and the All Knowing.

97 It is He who has set up for you the stars so that you might be guided by them in the midst of the darkness of land and sea. We have made the signs clear for people who want to understand.[a] 98 It is He who first produced you from a single soul, then gave you a place to stay [in life] and a resting place [after death]. We have made Our revelations clear to those who are men of understanding.

99 It is He who sends down water from the sky. With it We produce vegetation of all kinds; out of green foliage, We produce clustered grain; and from the date-palm, out of its sheath, We produce bunches of dates hanging low. We produce vineyards and olive groves and pomegranates, alike yet different. Look at their fruit as He causes it to grow and ripen. In this are signs for people who believe. 100 They have set up jinns as associates with God, even though He created them! They have even dared, in their ignorance, to attribute sons and daughters to Him. Hallowed be He and exalted far above what they ascribe to Him, 101 the Originator of the heavens and the earth. How could He have a son when He has no consort? He created everything and is aware of everything! 102 This is God, your Lord, there is no God but Him, the Creator of all things, so worship Him; He is the guardian of all things. 103 No vision can grasp Him, but He takes in over all vision; He is the Subtle and Aware One. 104 Clear insights have come to you from your Lord. Whoever, therefore, chooses to see, does so for his own good; and whoever chooses to remain blind, does so to his own loss. Say, ‘I am not here as your keeper.’ 105 This is how We explain Our revelations in various ways—so that they might come to the point of saying, ‘You have read this out to us,’

---

[a] The gigantic system of the universe runs with such exactitude that no discrepancy has crept into it even after millions of years. This proves the immanence of a Being whose powers are of unlimited greatness.

and that We might make it clear [that this is the truth] to those who are eager to know.

106 Follow what has been revealed to you from your Lord: there is no deity but Him; and ignore the polytheists. 107 If God had willed, they would not have associated anything with Him. We did not appoint you over them as their keeper, nor are you their guardian. 108 But do not revile those [beings] whom they invoke instead of God, lest they, in their hostility, revile God and out of ignorance. Thus to every people We have caused their actions to seem fair. To their Lord they shall all return, and He will declare to them all that they have done. 109 They swear a solemn oath by God that if there should come to them a sign, they will believe in it. Say, ‘Signs are granted only by God.’ How can you tell that if a sign be given to them, they will indeed believe in it?

110 We will turn away their hearts and eyes from the Truth, since they refused to believe in it in the first instance. We will let them wander blindly in their insolence. 111 Even if We sent down angels to them, and caused the dead to speak to them, and We gathered together everything in front of them, they would still not believe, unless God had so willed. But most of them behave ignorantly. 112 In like manner We have assigned for every prophet an opponent, Satans from among men and jinn, who make evil suggestions to each other by means of specious words in order to deceive—had it been your Lord’s will, they would not have done so; so leave them alone to their fabrication, 113 in order that the hearts of those who do not believe in the life to come might incline towards those suggestions and, being pleased, persist in their sinful ways. 114 Should I seek a judge other than God, when it is He who has revealed the Book, clearly explained. Those to whom We gave the Book earlier know that it is the truth revealed by your Lord. Therefore, have no doubts.

115 The Word of your Lord is

perfected in truth and justice.
None can change His words. He
is the All Hearing, the All
Knowing. 116 If you obey the
majority of those on earth, they
will lead you astray from God's
way. They follow nothing but
conjecture. They are only
guessing. 117 Your Lord knows
best who has strayed from His
Way and He knows best those
who are guided. 118 Eat then,
only that over which God's name
has been pronounced, if you
truly believe in His revelations.

119 Why should you not eat
what has been consecrated in
God's name, when He has
already explained to you what
He has forbidden you, unless
you are compelled by necessity?
Surely, many mislead others by
their desires through lack of
knowledge. But your Lord best
knows the transgressors.
120 Eschew all sin, open or secret:
Those who commit sin will
receive due punishment for their
sins, 121 and do not eat anything
over which God's name has not
been pronounced, for that surely
is disobedience. The devils
inspire their followers to argue
with you. If you obey them, you
will become of those who
associate partners with God.
122 Can he who was dead, to
whom We gave life, and a light
whereby he could walk among
people be like him who is in
utter darkness from which he
can never emerge? Thus the
deeds of those who deny the
truth have been made fair-
seeming to them.

123 Thus We have placed
leaders of the wicked in every
town to plot therein. Yet it is
only against themselves that they
scheme, though they may not
perceive it. 124 When a sign
comes to them, they say, 'We
will not believe in it until we are
given what God's messengers
have been given. But God knows
best whom to appoint as His
Messenger. Humiliation before
God and severe torment will
befall the evil-doers for their
scheming. 125 When God desires
to guide someone, He opens his
breast to Islam; and whoever He

wills to let go astray, He causes his breast to be constricted as if he had to climb up to the skies. That is how God heaps ignominy upon those who refuse to believe.

[126] This is the straight path leading to your Lord. We have made the signs clear for thinking men. [127] They shall dwell in the Home of Peace with their Lord; He will be their Protector as a recompense for what they have been doing. [128] On the day when He gathers them all together, He will say, 'Company of jinn, you took away many followers among mankind.' And their adherents among mankind will say, 'Our Lord, we benefited from one another, but now we have reached the end of the term which You determined for us.' He will say, 'The Fire shall be your home, and there you shall remain forever, except as God wills. Surely your Lord is wise and all knowing.

[129] And in like manner We shall keep the wrongdoers close to others as a punishment for their misdeeds. [130] Company of jinn and mankind! Did messengers not come from among you to recite My revelations to you, and warn you of the meeting of this Day?' They will say, 'We bear witness against ourselves.' It was the life of this world that deceived them and so they will bear witness against themselves, that they rejected the truth. [131] Your Lord would not destroy a community for its wrongdoing, so long as its people were still unaware. [132] For all are degrees of rank according to their deeds; your Lord is not unaware of anything they do.

[133] Your Lord is the self-sufficient One, the merciful. If He wills, He can take you away and replace you by anyone He pleases, just as He raised you from the offspring of other people. [134] That which you are promised shall surely come to pass and you cannot prevent it. [135] Say, 'O my people! Go on acting in your way; indeed I am going to act in my way; soon you will know whose end will be best in the Hereafter.' Surely, the

wrongdoers shall not prosper. [136] They set aside for God a share in what He has produced, such as crops and livestock, and they say, 'This is for God'—so they claim!—and 'this is for our associate-gods? Their associate-gods' share does not reach God, whereas God's share reaches their associate-gods. How ill they judge!

[137] And in like manner, their associate gods have made killing their children seem fair to many pagans, so that they may ruin them and cause confusion in their religion. Had God pleased, they would not have done so; so leave them to their false inventions. [138] They also say, 'These animals and these crops are forbidden. None may eat them except those we permit.' So they claim! There are some animals they exempt from labour and some over which they do not pronounce God's name, thus committing a sin against Him. He will requite them for the falsehoods they invent.

[139] They say, 'What is in the wombs of such and such cattle is exclusively for our males and is forbidden to our females. But if it is stillborn, they may have a share of it.' God will soon punish them for their [false] attribution. He is wise, and all-knowing. [140] Losers indeed are they who kill their children foolishly and without knowledge and declare as forbidden what God has provided for them as sustenance—a fabrication against God: they have gone astray and have not chosen to be rightly guided. [141] It is He who has produced gardens, both trellised and untrellised, and date palms and field crops, all varying in taste, and the olive and the pomegranate, both similar and dissimilar. Eat their fruits when they bear fruit and give away what is due of them on the day of their harvest. Do not waste anything. He does not love the wasteful!

[142] Of the cattle there are some for carrying burdens and some for food. Eat what God has provided for you and do not

follow in Satan's footsteps, for he is a declared enemy of yours. 143 God has created four kinds of livestock of either sex: two of sheep and two of goats. Ask them, 'Is it the two males He has forbidden or the two females or what the wombs of the two females contain? Tell me on the basis of knowledge, if you are truthful.'

144 Again, of the camels there are two, and of the oxen two. Ask them, 'Is it the two males He has forbidden, or the two females or what the wombs of the two females contain? Were you present when God enjoined this on you?' Who is more unjust than one who, without knowledge, fabricates a lie against God, so that he may lead people astray without knowledge? Surely, God does not guide the wrongdoers. 145 Say [O Prophet], 'In all that has been revealed to me, I do not find a ban on anything to eat, except for carrion, flowing blood and pork, all these being unclean or profane, on which the name of someone other than God has been invoked.' But if anyone is forced by necessity, being neither disobedient nor exceeding the limit, then surely your Lord is most forgiving and merciful. 146 We forbade the Jews all animals with claws and the fat of sheep [and goats] and oxen, except what is on their backs and in their intestines and what adheres to their bones. That is the penalty We imposed on them for their disobedience. And We assuredly are true to Our word.

147 So, if they accuse you of lying, say, 'The mercy of your Lord is all-encompassing. His punishment cannot be averted from sinful men.' 148 Those who associate partners with God will surely say, 'Had God pleased, neither we nor our fathers would have served other gods besides Him; nor would we have made anything unlawful.' Likewise those who lived before them argued falsely until they came to taste Our punishment! Say, 'Have you any knowledge? If so, produce it before us. You follow

nothing but conjecture. You are merely guessing.'

149 Say, 'God alone has the conclusive proof. If He had willed, He could have guided every one of you.' 150 Say, 'Come, bring your witnesses, who can testify that God forbade [all] this.' If they bear witness [falsely], do not bear witness with them; nor yield to the wishes of those who deny Our signs, nor of those who do not believe in the life to come and set up others as equals with their Lord. 151 Say, 'Come! I will tell you what your Lord has really forbidden you! Do not associate anything with Him; be good to your parents; and do not kill your children for fear of poverty—We shall provide sustenance for you as well as for them—refrain from committing indecent deeds, whether openly or in secret; and do not kill the life which God has made sacred, save by right. That is what He has enjoined upon you, so that you may understand.

152 Stay well away from an orphan's property, except with the best intentions, before he comes of age. Give full measure and weight, according to justice—We never charge a soul with more than it can bear—when you speak, observe justice, even though it concerns a close relative; and fulfil the covenants of God. That is what He has enjoined upon you so that you may take heed.

153 [He has enjoined], 'This is My straight path; so follow it, and do not follow other ways: that will lead you away from His path.' That is what He enjoins upon you, so that you may guard yourselves. 154 Then We gave Moses the Book, completing [Our favour] to the righteous, explaining everything clearly, as guidance and mercy, so that they might believe in meeting their Lord.

155 This is a Book which We have revealed as a blessing—follow it and fear your Lord, so that you may receive mercy—156 and not say, 'The Book was only sent down to the two groups before us and we were indeed

unaware of their teachings,' 157 or you may say, 'If the Book had been sent down to us, we would surely have followed its guidance better than they did.' There has now come to you clear evidence from your Lord, and guidance and mercy. Who, then, is more unjust than one who rejects the signs of God and turns away from them? We shall requite those who turn away from Our signs with a painful punishment, for their turning away. 158 Are they waiting for the angels or your Lord to come down to them, or for some of your Lord's signs to come? The day when some of the signs of your Lord shall come, it shall not profit any human being who did not believe before, or who did not do any good by his faith. Say to them, 'Wait then, we too are waiting.' 159 Have nothing to do with those who have split up their religion into sects. Their case rests with God; He will tell them about what they used to do.

160 Whoever does a good deed will be repaid tenfold, but those who do a bad deed will only be repaid with its equivalent and they shall not be wronged. 161 Say, 'My Lord has guided me to a straight path, and to an upright religion, the religion of Abraham the upright, who was not of those who associate partners with God.'

162 Say, 'My prayer and my sacrifice and my life and my death are all for God, the Lord of the worlds; 163 He has no partner. So am I commanded, and I am the first of those who submit.' 164 Say, 'Shall I seek a lord other than God, while He is the Lord of all things?' Everyone must bear the consequence of what he does, and no bearer of a burden can bear the burden of another. Then to your Lord you will return, and He will inform you of what you used to dispute about. 165 It is He who has made you successors [of others] on the earth and has exalted some of you over the others in degrees of rank, so that He may test you by that which He has given you. Your Lord is swift in punishment; yet surely He is forgiving, and merciful.

7. THE HEIGHTS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Alif Lam Mim Sad*

2 This Book has been sent
down to you—let there be no
heaviness in your heart about
it—so that you may warn by
means of it and it is a reminder
to the believers. 3 Follow what
has been sent down to you by
your Lord and do not follow any
protector other than Him. How
seldom you take heed. 4 How
many towns We have destroyed.
Our scourge fell upon them by
night or at midday when they
were resting: 5 and when Our
scourge fell upon them, their
only cry was, ‘We were indeed
wrongdoers!’ 6 Then shall We
question those to whom Our
message was sent and those
through whom We sent it 7 with
full knowledge, We shall tell
them what they did, for We have
never been away from them.
8 Truth alone will be of weight
that Day. Those whose scales are
heavy shall be successful, 9 and
those whose good deeds are light
[in the balance] will be the ones
who have lost themselves
because they wrongfully rejected
Our signs.

10 We established you in the
land and provided you with a
means of livelihood there: yet
you are seldom thankful. 11 We
created you, then We shaped you
and then We said to the angels,
‘Prostrate yourselves before
Adam,’ and they all prostrated
themselves, except Satan. He
was not among those who
prostrated themselves. 12 God
asked, ‘What prevented you from
prostrating yourself when I
commanded you to?’ He replied,
‘I am better than he is; You
created me from fire, while You
created him from clay.’ 13 God
said, ‘Get down from here! This
is no place for your arrogance.
Get out! You are contemptible!’
14 Satan said, ‘Give me respite

until the Day of Resurrection,'
15 and God replied, 'You are
granted respite.' 16 Then Satan
said, 'Because You have put me
in the wrong, I will lie in ambush
for them on Your straight path:
17 then I will surely come upon
them from before them and from
behind them and from their right
and from their left, and then You
will find most of them
ungrateful.' 18 He said, 'Get out
of here, despised, and rejected! I
shall fill Hell with all of those
who follow you.'

19 To Adam He said, 'You and
your wife, dwell in the Garden
and eat and drink there from
wherever you wish, but do not
approach this tree, lest you
become wrongdoers.' 20 But
Satan tempted them so that he
might reveal to them their
nakedness which had been
hidden from them. He said, 'Your
Lord has forbidden you to
approach this tree lest you should
become angels or become of the
immortals,' 21 and he swore
to them, 'Surely, I am your
well-wisher.'

22 Thus he cunningly seduced
them. When they tasted the tree's
fruit, their nakedness became
exposed to them and they started
covering themselves with the
leaves of the garden. Their Lord
called out to them, 'Did I not
forbid you to approach that tree,
and did I not say to you that
Satan was surely your open
enemy?' 23 They replied, 'Our
Lord, we have wronged our
souls: if You do not forgive us
and have mercy on us, we shall
be among the lost.' 24 He said,
'Go down from here as enemies
to each other. For a while, there
is an abode for you and a
provision on earth. 25 There you
will live; there you will die; from
there you will be raised up again.'

26 O children of Adam! We
have sent down to you clothes to
cover your nakedness, and to be
pleasing to the eye; but the
raiment of righteousness is the
best. That is one of the signs of
God. So that people may take
heed. 27 Children of Adam, do
not let Satan seduce you, just as
he turned your parents out of the

Garden: he deprived them of
their garment in order to make
them aware of their nakedness.
He and his forces watch you
from where you do not see them!
We have made the devils friends
of those who do not believe.

28 And when they commit an
indecency, they say, 'This is what
our fathers used to do and God
has enjoined it on us.' Say, 'God
does not enjoin what is indecent.
Would you attribute to God
something of which you have no
knowledge?' 29 Say, 'My Lord
has commanded you to act justly.
Turn your faces up toward Him
at every time and place of
worship, and call upon Him,
making yourselves sincere
towards Him in religion. As He
brought you into being, so shall
you return.' 30 Some He has
guided and some have earned
misguidance: they have taken
devils rather than God as their
patrons, thinking that they are
rightly guided.

31 O Children of Adam, dress
yourself properly whenever you
are at worship: and eat and drink
but do not be wasteful: God does
not like wasteful people. 32 Say,
'Who has forbidden the
adornment of God, which He
has brought forth for His servants
and good things, clean and pure,
which God has provided for His
servants?' Say, 'They are [lawful]
for the believers in the present
life but they shall be exclusively
for them on the Day of
Resurrection.' Thus We explain
Our signs for a people who
understand. 33 Say,'My Lord has
forbidden indecency, both open
and hidden, sin and wrongful
oppression and that, without His
sanction, you associate things
with Him, and that you say things
about Him without knowledge.

34 For all people a term has
been set: and when [the end of]
their term approaches, they can
neither delay it by a single
moment, nor can they advance
it. 35 Children of Adam! If
messengers come to you from
among yourselves, reciting My
revelations to you, then those
that take warning and mend their
ways, on such shall come no fear

nor shall they grieve. [36] But those who deny and scorn Our revelations shall be the inmates of Hell, where they shall remain forever. [37] Who does a greater wrong than he who invents lies against God or rejects His revelations? Such people will have what has been decreed for them. And when Our messengers come to them to take away their souls, they shall ask them, 'Where are those you used to call upon besides God?' They will answer, 'They have deserted us;' and they will bear witness against themselves that they were disbelievers?

[38] God will say, 'Enter the Fire and join the bands of jinn and men that have gone before you.' Every time a host enters [the fire], it will curse its fellow-host, then, when they are all gathered there, the last of them will say of the first, 'Our Lord, it was they who led us astray: give them double punishment in the Fire,'—God will say, 'Every one of you will have double punishment, though you do not know it'—[39] then the preceding one will say to the succeeding one: you are no better than us: so taste the punishment you have earned.'

[40] The gates of Heaven shall not be opened for those who rejected Our signs and arrogantly spurned them; nor shall they enter Paradise until a camel shall pass through the eye of a needle. That is how We repay the evil-doers—[41] Hell shall be their bed, and over them will be coverings of fire—thus shall We reward the wrongdoers. [42] But those who believed and did good deeds—and We do not burden any soul with more than it can bear—such are the heirs of the Garden and there they will remain forever. [43] And We shall remove whatever rancour may be in their hearts. At their feet shall flow rivers. And they shall say, 'All praise belongs to God who has guided us to this. Had God not guided us, we would never have found the way. The messengers of our Lord brought the Truth.' A voice will call out to them, 'This

is the Garden which you have
inherited by your labours.'
44 The people of the Garden
will call out to the people of the
Fire, 'We have found that what
our Lord promised us is true.
Have you, too, found that what
your Lord promised you is true?'
They will say, 'Yes, we have!'
Then a crier shall call out among
them saying, 'The curse of God
is upon the wrongdoers— 45 who
turned people away from the
path of God and sought to make
it appear crooked, and who
denied the Hereafter.'
46 A barrier will divide the two
groups, and on the heights there
will be men who recognize each
group by their marks. They will
call out to the people of the
Garden, 'Peace be with you.'
They will not have yet entered,
but they will be hoping [to do
so], 47 and when they turn their
eyes towards the inmates of the
Fire, they will say, 'Our Lord, do
not include us among the
wrongdoers!' 48 And the people
of the heights will call out to
men they recognize by their
marks, 'What use have your great
numbers and your false pride
been? 49 See! are these not the
people you swore would never
earn God's mercy? "Enter the
Garden! No fear shall come upon
you nor shall you grieve."'
50 The people of the Fire shall
call out to the people of heaven,
'Pour out some water on us, or
give us something out of that
which God has bestowed upon
you.' But the blessed will reply,
'God has forbidden all that to
those who denied the truth.
51 Who treated religion as a
pastime and an idle sport and
whom the life of the world had
beguiled.' On that Day We shall
forget them, as they forgot their
meeting of that Day with Us, for
they denied Our revelations.
52 And surely We have brought
them a Book which We have
expounded with knowledge, a
guide and a mercy for those who
believe. 53 Do they wait for the
fulfillment of that of which it
warns? On the Day when that
fulfillment comes, those who
had neglected it before will say,

'The messengers of our Lord did indeed bring the truth. Have we then any intercessors who would intercede for us? Or, could we be sent back so that we might act differently from the way we used to?' They have indeed ruined their souls and what they invented has forsaken them.

[54] Your Lord is God, who created the heavens and the earth in six Days [periods] and then settled Himself firmly on the throne. He throws the veil of night over the day, each seeking the other in rapid succession. It was He who created the sun, the moon and the stars, and made them subservient to His will. His is the creation, His the command. Blessed be God, Lord of the universe! [55] Call on your Lord with humility and in secret—He does not love the transgressors: [56] do not spread corruption on the earth after it has been set in order—pray to Him with fear and hope, God's mercy is close to those who do good.

[57] It is God who sends forth the winds as harbingers of His mercy, and when they have gathered up the heavy clouds, We drive them on to a dead land where We cause rain to fall, bringing out all kinds of fruit, just as We will raise the dead to life. Perhaps you will take heed. [58] Vegetation comes out of good land in abundance by the will of its Lord, but out of bad land only scantily. Thus We explain Our signs in diverse ways for those who give thanks.

[59] We sent Noah to his people. He said, 'O my people, worship God; you have no other god but He. I fear for you the punishment of a dreadful Day,' [60] but the leading men of his people said, 'Truly, we see that you are obviously lost in error!' [61] Said [Noah], 'O my people! I am not in error. Indeed, I am a messenger from the Lord of the Worlds, [62] I am conveying my Lord's messages to you and giving you sincere advice. I know things from God that you do not. [63] Do you find it so strange that a message should come from your Lord through a man from among

yourselves, so that he may warn
you and so that you may fear
God and be shown mercy?' 64 But
they denied him, so We saved
him and those with him in the
Ark, and We drowned those who
rejected Our signs. They were
indeed a blind people.

65 To the people of 'Ad We
sent their brother, Hud. He said,
'O my people, worship God, you
have no other god but He. Then
will you not be God-fearing?'
66 The leading men of his people
who refused to acknowledge the
truth, said, 'We can see you are
a foolish man, and we think you
are lying.' 67 He said, 'My people,
I am by no means a fool, but
rather am a messenger from the
Lord of the Universe, 68 I am
conveying my Lord's messages
to you and I am your sincere and
honest adviser. 69 Do you find it
strange that a Message should
come from your Lord, through
one of your own men, to
warn you? Remember how He
made you successors of Noah's
people, and increased you
greatly in stature. Remember
the favours of God, so that you
may prosper.'

70 They said, 'Have you come
to tell us to serve God alone and
to forsake the gods our
forefathers served? Bring us then
what you threaten us with, if you
are truthful.' 71 He said, 'Your
Lord's wrath and indignation
have already fallen upon you.
Would you dispute with me about
mere names, which you and your
fathers have invented, and for
which God has revealed no
authority? Wait then if you will:
I am waiting alongside you.'
72 Then We saved him and those
who were with him, by Our
mercy; We annihilated those who
denied Our signs and would not
believe.

73 To the Thamud We sent their
brother Salih. He said, 'O my
people, worship God; you have
no other god but Him. A veritable
proof has come to you from your
Lord: this is God's she-camel, a
sign for you, so let her feed in
God's land and do not harm her
in any way, or you will be
overwhelmed by a painful

punishment. 74 Remember when He made you successors to the ‘Ad and settled you in the land. You built palaces on its plains and carved houses out of the mountains. Remember God’s blessings and do not spread corruption in the land,’ 75 but the arrogant leaders of his people said to the believers who were deemed weak, ‘Do you know for certain that Salih is one sent from his Lord?’ They replied, ‘We believe in the message which has been sent through him.’ 76 The arrogant leaders said, ‘We reject what you believe in.’ 77 So they hamstrung the she-camel, and insolently defied the commandment of their Lord, saying, ‘O Salih! Bring upon us what you threaten us with if you are indeed a messenger.’ 78 So the earthquake overwhelmed them, and morning found them prostrate in their dwelling places. 79 He left them, saying, ‘My people, I delivered my Lord’s messages to you and counselled you sincerely, but you do not like sincere advisors.’

80 We sent Lot, who said to his people, ‘How can you commit an abomination such as no one in the world has ever done before you? 81 You lust after men rather than women! You transgress all bounds!’ 82 The only answer given by his people was, ‘Turn them out of your town. They are people who regard themselves to be pure.’ 83 So We saved him and his family—except for his wife. She was one of those who stayed behind. 84 We rained down on them a shower [of brimstone]. Then see what was the end of the evil-doers.

85 To Midian We sent their brother Shu‘ayb. He said, ‘O my people, worship God; you have no other god but Him. Clear signs [evidence] has indeed come to you from your Lord. So give full measure and full weight, and do not deliver short. Do not corrupt the land after it has been set in order. This is for your own good, if you are true believers. 86 Do not lie in ambush on every pathway, threatening people, barring those who believe from

the Way of God, seeking to make
it appear crooked. Remember
when you were few in number
and He multiplied you. Consider
the fate of those who used to
spread corruption. 87 And if there
is a group of you which believes
in My message and others who
disbelieve it, be patient until
God shall judge between us. He
is the best of judges.'

88 The arrogant leaders of his
people said, 'Shu'ayb, we will
expel you and your fellow
believers from our town unless
you return to our faith.' He said,
'Even though we detest it? 89 We
would be inventing lies against
God if we returned to your faith
after God has delivered us from
it. It is not for us to return to it
unless God our Lord so willed.
Our Lord encompasses all things
in His knowledge. We have put
our trust in God. Our Lord,
expose the truth [and judge]
between us and our people, You
are the best judge.' 90 The
leading men of his people who
were bent on denying the truth,
said, 'If you follow Shu'ayb,
you will certainly be the losers.'
91 Thereupon an earthquake
overtook them and morning
found them lying flattened in
their homes; 92 those who had
denied Shu'ayb became as
though they had never lived there.
Those who denied Shu'ayb, were
themselves the losers. 93 So he
turned away from them, saying,
'My people, I delivered my
Lord's messages to you and gave
you sincere advice, so why
should I grieve for people who
refused to believe?'

94 Whenever We sent a prophet
to a town, We afflicted its people
with suffering and adversity, so
that they might humble
themselves [before God], 95 and
then We changed their hardship
into ease until they grew affluent
and said, 'Our fathers had also
experienced adversity and
prosperity,' then We seized them
suddenly, unawares. 96 Had the
people of those towns believed
in and feared God, We would
have showered upon them
blessings from heaven and earth,
but they rejected the truth. So

We seized them on account of
their misdeeds. 97 Do the people
of these towns now feel secure
against the coming of Our
punishment upon them by night
while they are asleep? 98 Or, do
they feel secure against the
coming of Our punishment upon
them in the forenoon while they
are at play? 99 Do they feel secure
against God's devising? No one
feels secure against God's devising
except for those doomed to ruin.

100 Does it not guide the people
who inherit the land from former
people that We can punish them
for their sins if We will? And
seal up their hearts so that they
would not be able to lend an ear
to words of guidance? 101 We
have told you the stories of those
towns: their messengers came to
them with clear signs, but they
were never going to believe in
something they had already
rejected. Thus God seals up the
hearts of those who deny the
truth. 102 We found most of them
untrue to their covenants, indeed
We found most of them to
be defiant.

103 After them We sent Moses
with Our signs to Pharaoh and
his chiefs. But they willfully
rejected them. Consider the end
of the evil-doers. 104 Moses said,
'Pharaoh, I am a messenger from
the Lord of the Universe,
105 duty-bound to say nothing
about God but the truth, and I
have brought you a clear sign
from your Lord. Let the Children
of Israel go with me.'
106 [Pharaoh] said, 'If you come
with a sign, then produce it, if
you are telling the truth.' 107 Then
Moses threw down his staff and
suddenly, unmistakably, it
appeared as a serpent, 108 and he
drew forth his hand, and it
appeared [shining] white to the
beholders. 109 The chiefs of
Pharaoh's people said, 'This is
most surely a skillful magician,
110 who seeks to drive you from
your land!' Pharaoh said, 'What
then do you advise?' 111 They
said, 'Let him and his brother
wait awhile, and send into the
cities summoners, 112 who should
bring to you every skillful
magician.'

113 And the magicians came to
Pharaoh and asked, ‘Shall we
have a reward, if we should
prevail?’ 114 Pharaoh replied,
‘Certainly, and you shall also
become my courtiers.’ 115 They
said, ‘Moses, will you first throw,
or shall we?’ 116 He said, ‘You
throw [first]!’ When they made
their cast, they bewitched the
eyes of the people and struck
them with awe, for they showed
a great [feat of] magic. 117 Then
We inspired Moses, saying,
‘Throw down your staff.’ And it
immediately swallowed up their
false devices. 118 Thus the truth
prevailed and what they had
produced came to nothing:
119 Pharaoh and his men were
defeated and utterly humiliated.
120 And the sorcerers prostrated
themselves 121 and said, ‘We
believe in the Lord of the
Universe, 122 the Lord of Moses
and Aaron!’

123 Pharaoh said, ‘You dare
believe in Him before I have
given you permission? Behold,
this is indeed a plot which you
have devised in this city in order
to drive its people out. But
you shall soon know the
consequences, 124 I will cut off
your hands and feet on alternate
sides and then crucify you all!’
125 They replied, ‘We shall surely
return to our Lord. 126 You would
punish us only because we
believed in the signs of our Lord
when they were shown to us.
Our Lord, pour patience upon
us, and cause us to die in a state
of submission to You.’

127 The chiefs of Pharaoh’s
people said, ‘Will you allow
Moses and his people to spread
corruption in the land, and to
forsake you and your gods?’ He
replied, ‘We shall kill their male
children and spare only the
females. We have complete
power over them.’ 128 Moses said
to his people, ‘Turn to God for
help and be patient. The earth
belongs to God. He gives it to
those of His servants whom He
chooses, and the future belongs
to the God-fearing.’ 129 They
replied, ‘We were being
persecuted before you came to
us, and we are still being

persecuted.' He said, 'Your Lord
may well destroy your enemy
and make you successors to the
land. Then He will see how you
conduct yourselves.'

130 We afflicted Pharaoh's
people with shortages of food
and famine so that they might
take heed, 131 then when
something good came to them,
they said, 'It is our due!'—but
when something bad came, they
ascribed it as an ill-omen to
Moses and those with him. Surely
their [evil] fortune had been
decreed by God, but most of
them did not know this. 132 They
said, 'Whatever miracles you
work to bewitch us, we will not
believe in you.'

133 Then We afflicted them
with storms, and locusts, and
lice, and frogs, and blood: so
many clear signs. But they were
steeped in arrogance, for they
were a people given to sin.
134 Whenever a plague struck
them, they would say, 'Moses,
pray to your Lord for us by virtue
of the promise He has made to
you: if you remove this plague
from us, we will surely believe
in you and let the Children of
Israel go with you,' 135 but
whenever We removed the
plague from them, giving them
time to make good their promise,
they would break their word.

136 So We exacted retribution
from them and drowned them in
the sea, because they rejected
Our signs and paid no heed to
them; 137 We made the people
who were considered weak
inheritors of the eastern parts
and western parts of the land
which We had blessed. Thus
your Lord's good promise to the
Children of Israel was fulfilled,
because of their patience, and
We destroyed all that Pharaoh
and his people had built and all
that they had raised high.

138 We brought the children of
Israel across the sea and they
came upon a people who were
devoted to their idols. They said,
'Moses, give us a god just like
the gods these people have.' He
said, 'You are indeed an ignorant
people: 139 what they are engaged
in is doomed to destruction and

all their works are in vain.’ 140 He said, ‘Shall I seek a deity for you other than God, while it is He who has exalted you above all peoples? 141 We delivered you from Pharaoh’s people, who afflicted you with dreadful torment, slaying your male children and sparing only your daughters. That was surely a great trial for you by your Lord.’

142 We appointed thirty nights for Moses, then added ten more: the term set by his Lord was fulfilled in forty nights. Moses said to his brother Aaron, ‘Take my place among my people: act rightly and do not follow the way of those who spread corruption.’ 143 And when Moses came at Our appointed time and his Lord spoke to him, he said, ‘My Lord, show Yourself to me so that I may look at You.’ He replied, ‘You cannot see Me, but look at the mountain; if it remains firmly in its place, then only will you see Me.’ And when his Lord manifested Himself on the mountain, He broke it into pieces and Moses felt down unconscious. And when he recovered, he said, ‘Glory be to You, I turn towards You, and I am the first to believe.’

144 He replied, ‘Moses, I have chosen you of all mankind for My messages and My Words. Hold fast to what I have given you, and be among the grateful!’ 145 And We wrote for him upon the Tablets an admonition and details of all things, then [bade him], ‘Hold fast to them; and command your people to follow them in their best sense. Soon I shall show you the home of the wicked. 146 I will turn away from My signs all those who are arrogant in the land without any right, so that even if they see all the signs they will not believe in them. If they see the right path, they shall not walk upon it: but if they see the path of error, they shall choose it for their path, because they have given the lie to Our signs and paid no heed to them. 147 The actions of those who denied Our signs and the Meeting of the Hereafter will come to nothing—they shall

be requited only, according to their deeds.'

148 In his absence, the people of Moses made a calf from their ornaments, an image which made a lowing sound. Could they not see that it did not speak to them or guide them in any way? Yet they took to worshipping it: they were evil-doers. 149 When they were afflicted with remorse, and realized that they had indeed gone astray, they said, 'If our Lord does not have mercy on us and forgive us, we shall be among the lost.' 150 When Moses returned to his people in anger and great sorrow, he said, 'What an awful sin you have committed in my absence. Did you want to hasten your Lord's command?' He threw down the Tablets and seized his brother by the head, pulling him towards himself. Aaron said, 'Son of my mother, the people oppressed me and almost killed me. Do not give my enemies cause to gloat over me. Do not number me among the wrongdoers.' 151 He said, 'My Lord, forgive me and my brother and admit us to Your mercy. You are the Most Merciful of the merciful.'

152 Those who took to worshipping the calf will be afflicted by their Lord's wrath, and be disgraced in the life of this world. This is the way We requite those who invent falsehoods. 153 As for those who committed evils, and thereafter repented and believed, they shall find your Lord forgiving and merciful.

154 When his anger had subsided, Moses took up the Tablets upon which was inscribed a pledge of guidance and mercy for those who fear their Lord. 155 And Moses chose from his people seventy men for Our appointment. When they were seized with violent quaking, he prayed, 'O my Lord! If it had been Your will, You could have destroyed both them and me long ago. But would You destroy us for the deeds of the foolish ones among us? This is no more than Your trial: by it You cause whom You will to stray, and You

lead whom You will to the right path. You are our Protector. Forgive us, therefore, and have mercy on us, for You are the best of those who forgive. [156] Grant us good things, both in this life and in the hereafter. To You alone we turn.' He replied, 'As for My punishment, I smite with it anyone I will. But My mercy encompasses all things. I shall prescribe it for those who do their duty, pay the *zakat* and who believe in Our signs. [157] Also for those who follow the Messenger—the unlettered prophet they find described in the Torah that is with them, and in the Gospel—who commands them to do right and forbids them to do wrong, who makes good things lawful to them and bad things unlawful, who will relieve them of their burdens and of the shackles that weigh upon them. Those that believe in him and honour him, those that aid him and follow the light sent down with him, shall surely triumph.'

[158] Say, 'People, I am God's Messenger to you all, He has sovereignty over the heavens and the earth. There is no god but Him. He ordains life and death, so believe in God and His Messenger, the unlettered prophet who believes in God and His words. Follow him so that you may be rightly guided.' [159] Yet there is a group among the people of Moses who guide with truth and act justly in accordance with it.

[160] We divided them up into twelve tribes, each a whole community, and We revealed Our will to Moses, when his people asked for water, saying, 'Strike the rock with your staff.' Twelve springs gushed from it and each tribe knew its drinking place. We caused the clouds to draw their shadow over them and sent down for them manna and quails, saying, 'Eat the good things We have given you.' They did not wrong Us; rather it was themselves they wronged. [161] When they were told, 'Settle down in the town and eat wherever you wish in it, and

pray for forgiveness and enter
the gate in humility: We shall
forgive you your sins and shall
bestow further favours upon
those who do good,' 162 the
transgressors among them
substituted something else for
the word they had been given.
So We sent them a punishment
from heaven for their
wrongdoing.

163 Ask them about the town
which was by the sea and what
befell its people when they broke
the Sabbath. On their Sabbath
the fish came to them near the
surface, but on week-days they
never came near them—thus We
tried them because of their
disobedience. 164 When some of
them asked, 'Why do you
admonish a people whom God is
going to destroy or to afflict with
a severe punishment?' They
answered, 'In order to be free
from blame before your Lord,
and that they may perhaps fear
Him.'

165 Therefore when they forgot
what they had been reminded of,
We saved those who had tried to
prevent the doing of evil. And
We meted out a severe
punishment to the transgressors
because they were rebellious.
166 And then, when they
disdainfully persisted in doing
what they had been forbidden to
do, We said to them, 'Be as apes,
despised!'

167 Then your Lord declared
that, until the Day of
Resurrection, He would send
others against them to inflict
terrible suffering on them. Your
Lord is swift in retribution; yet
surely He is most forgiving and
merciful. 168 We split them up
into sections on the earth. Some
of them are righteous while some
of them are otherwise, and We
tested them with blessings and
misfortunes, so that they might
return to the right path.

169 They were succeeded by
generations who inherited the
Scripture and took to the fleeting
gains of this world, saying, 'We
shall certainly be forgiven.' If
there came to them similar
fleeting gains again, they would
take them. Was a pledge not

taken from them, written in the Scripture, that they would not say anything but the truth about God? And they have studied whatever is in it. Surely the Home of the Hereafter is better for those who fear Him. Will you not understand? [170] As for those who hold fast to the Book and are steadfast in prayer, We shall not deny the righteous their reward. [171] When We suspended the mountain over them as if it were a canopy, and they thought it was going to fall down on them, We said, 'Hold on firmly to what We have given you and remember what is in it, so that you may remain conscious of God.'

[172] When your Lord brought forth offspring from the loins of the Children of Adam and made them bear witness about themselves, He said, 'Am I not your Lord?' They replied, 'We bear witness that You are.' This He did, lest you should say on the Day of Resurrection, 'We had no knowledge of that.' [173] Or lest you say, 'Our forefathers associated others with God before our time, and we are only the descendants who came after them. So are You going to destroy us for what those inventors of falsehood did?' [174] We explain Our signs in detail thus, so that perhaps they may return to Us.

[175] Recite to them the tale of the man to whom We gave Our signs, but who then cast them to one side and Satan overtook him. And he became one of those who went astray—[176] if it had been Our will, We could have used these signs to exalt him, but instead he clung to the earth and followed his own desires—he was like a dog that pants whether you chase it away or leave it alone. Such are those who reject Our signs. Tell them this story so that they may reflect. [177] How evil is the case of those who deny Our signs. They only wrong themselves: [178] anyone whom God guides has been rightly guided; while those He lets go astray will surely be the losers.

[179] We created many of the

jinn and mankind for hell. They have hearts they do not understand with; they have eyes they do not see with; and they have ears they do not hear with. Such people are like cattle—no, they are even more misguided. Such are the heedless. 180 God has the Most Excellent Names. Call on Him by His Names and keep away from those who distort them. They shall be requited for what they do. 181 Of those We have created there are some who give true guidance and act justly. 182 We shall gradually seize those who reject Our signs from a place they do not recognize. 183 For though I give them rein for a while, My strategy is sure.

184 Have they not reflected that their companion is not mad? He is only a plain warner. 185 Have they not looked into the realms of the heavens and the earth and all that God created, and seen that the end of their time might be near? What will they believe in if they do not believe in this? 186 No one can guide those whom God lets go astray: He leaves them blundering about in their arrogance. 187 They ask you [Prophet] about the Hour of Doom, 'When will it come?' Say, 'Knowledge about it rests only with my Lord; He alone will reveal when its time will come, it lies heavy on the heavens and the earth: it will suddenly overtake you.' They will put questions to you as though you had full knowledge of it. Say, 'Knowledge about it rests only with God, though most people do not realize it.' 188 Say, 'I myself have no power to benefit or do harm, save as God pleases. If I had knowledge of the unseen, I would have availed myself of an abundance of good, and no harm would have touched me. I am but a warner and a bearer of good tidings for those who will believe.'

189 It was He who created you from a single soul, and from it made its mate so that he may find comfort in her. Once he has covered her, she conceives and goes about with a light burden. When it grows heavy, they both

call to God, their Lord, 'If You
bestow on us a healthy child, we
will surely be grateful,' 190 yet
when He grants them a healthy
child, they begin to ascribe to
others a share in the gift they
have received. But God is far
above what they associate with
Him! 191 Do they associate with
Him those who create nothing
and are themselves created?
192 They can give them no help,
nor can they help themselves.
193 It makes no difference
whether you call on them or
remain silent. If you call them to
the right path, they will not follow
you. 194 Those whom you call on
besides God are but creatures
like yourselves. Call upon them,
then, and let them respond to
you, if what you say is true.

195 Have they feet to walk with?
Have they hands to hold with?
Have they eyes to see with?
Have they ears to hear with? Say,
'Call upon those you associate
with God as partners, then all of
you contrive against me and give
me no respite. 196 My protector
is God who sent down the Book,
for it is He who protects the
righteous. 197 Those whom you
call on besides Him have no
power to help you, nor can they
help themselves.' 198 If you call
them to the right path, they will
not hear you. You find them
looking towards you, but they do
not see you.

199 Be tolerant; enjoin what is
right; and avoid the ignorant.
200 If an evil impulse from Satan
provokes you, seek refuge with
God; He is all hearing, and all
knowing. 201 When any evil
suggestion from Satan touches
those who fear God, they are
instantly alerted and become
watchful; 202 but the followers
of devils are led relentlessly into
error by them. They never desist.

203 When you do not bring
them a sign, they say, 'Why do
you not invent one?' Say, 'I
follow only what is revealed to
me by my Lord. This Book is an
enlightenment from your Lord
and a guide and mercy to true
believers. 204 When the Quran
is read, listen to it with
attention, and hold your peace,

so that you may receive mercy. 205 Remember your Lord deep in your very soul, in all humility and awe, without raising your voice, morning and evening—do not be one of the heedless—206 [even] the ones [angels] who live in the presence of your Lord are not too proud to worship Him: they glorify Him and prostrate themselves before Him.

8. THE SPOILS OF WAR

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 They ask you about the spoils of war. Say, 'They belong to God and His Messenger. So fear God, and set things right among yourselves, and obey God and His Messenger, if you are true believers: 2 true believers are those whose hearts tremble with awe at the mention of God, and whose faith grows stronger as they listen to His revelations. They are those who put their trust in their Lord, 3 who pray regularly and give in alms out of what We have provided for them. 4 Such are the true believers. They have a high standing with their Lord, His forgiveness and an honourable provision made for them.

5 As it was your Lord who rightfully brought you forth from your house, even though some of the believers disliked it, 6 and they disputed with you concerning the truth after it had become manifest, as though they were being driven to their death with open eyes. 7 God promised you that one of the two parties would fall to you, and you wished that the one without sting should be yours, but God wanted to establish the truth by His words and cut off the root of those who denied the truth—8 so that He might prove the truth to be true and the false to be false, however much the wrongdoers might dislike it.

9 When you prayed to your
Lord for help, He answered, 'I
am sending to your aid a thousand
angels in succession.' 10 God only
did this to give you good news,
and so that your hearts might be
set at rest, for help comes from
God alone. Surely, God is Mighty
and Wise. 11 He brought
drowsiness upon you to give you
His reassurance and sent down
water from the sky upon you, so
that He might thereby purify you
and remove Satan's pollution
from you, and make your hearts
strong and your feet firm.
12 When your Lord commanded
the angels, saying, 'I am with
you, so make those who believe
stand firm. I will instill fear in
the hearts of those who deny the
truth: so strike their necks and
strike all their finger joints!'[a]
13 That was because they defied
God and His Messenger. He who
defies God and His Messenger
shall be severely punished by
God. 14 That is your punishment,
taste it then; and know that for
those who deny the truth there is
the punishment of the Fire.

15 Believers, when you meet in
battle those who deny the truth,
never turn your backs on them:
16 whoever turns his back on
such an occasion, unless it be as
a stratagem of war, or in an
endeavour to join another group
[of the believers] will indeed
draw down upon himself the
wrath of God, and Hell shall be
his abode and the worst indeed is
that destination.

17 You did not kill them; it was
God who killed them; and when
you [Prophet] threw [sand] at
them it was not you, but God
who threw it so that He might
confer on the believers a great
favour from Himself. Surely, God
is all hearing, all-knowing—
18 that is what happened—and
God will surely undermine the
design of those who deny the
truth. 19 If you were seeking a
judgement, a judgement has now
come to you. If you desist, it will
be the better for you. But if you
return [to hostility] We too will

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

return. And your host will avail you naught, however numerous it may be, and [know] that surely God is with the believers.

[20] Believers, obey God and His Messenger, and do not turn away from him now that you have heard all. [21] Do not be like those who say, 'We hear,' but pay no heed to what they hear—[22] the worst creatures in God's eyes are those who are deaf and dumb, and who possess no understanding. [23] If God had found any good in them, He would certainly have made them hear; but being as they are, even if He makes them hear, they will turn away in aversion.

[24] Believers, obey God and the Messenger when he calls you to that which gives you life. Know that God stands between man and his heart, and you shall all be gathered in His presence. [25] And beware of an affliction that will not smite exclusively those among you who have done wrong. Know that God is severe in exacting retribution.

[26] Remember when you were few in number and were accounted weak in the land, ever fearing the onslaught of your enemies, but He provided you with shelter, and supported you with His help and provided you with good things, so that you might be grateful. [27] Do not betray God and His Messenger, and do not knowingly violate your trusts. [28] Know that your wealth and children are a trial and that there is an immense reward with God.

[29] Believers, if you fear God, He will grant you the ability to discriminate between right and wrong, and will forgive you your sins: for God is limitless in His great bounty. [30] Remember how those who bent on denying the truth plotted against you to imprison you or kill you or expel you: they schemed—but God also schemed. God is the best of schemers.

[31] Whenever Our revelations are recited to them, they say, 'We have heard them. If we wished, we could produce the like. They are nothing but the fables of the

ancients.' 32 They also said, 'God,
if this really is the truth from
You, then rain down upon us
stones from heaven, or send us
some other painful punishment.'
33 But God would not punish
them while you [Prophet] were
in their midst, nor would He
punish them so long as they
sought forgiveness. 34 Yet why
should God not punish them
when they debar people from the
Sacred Mosque, although they
are not its guardians? Its rightful
guardians are those who fear
God, though most of them do
not realize it. 35 Their prayers at
the Sacred House are nothing
but whistling and clapping of
hands. 'So taste the punishment
because of your denial.'

36 Those who are bent on
denying the truth are spending
their wealth in debarring others
from the path of God. They will
continue to spend it in this way
till, in the end, this spending will
become a source of intense regret
for them, and then they will be
overcome. And those who denied
the truth will be gathered together
in Hell. 37 So that God may
separate the bad from the good,
He will heap the wicked one
upon another and then cast them
into Hell. These will surely be
the losers.

38 Tell those who are bent on
denying the truth that if they
desist, their past shall be
forgiven, but if they persist in
sin, they have an example in the
fate of those who went before.
39 Fight them until there is no
more [religious] persecution,[a]
and religion belongs wholly to
God: if they desist, then surely
God is watchful of what they do,
40 but if they turn away, know
that God is your Protector; the
Best of Protectors and the Best
of Helpers!

41 Know that one-fifth of your
battle gains belongs to God and
the Messenger, to his close
relatives and orphans, to the
needy and travellers, if you
believe in God and the revelation
We sent down to Our servant on

---

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

the Decisive Day, the day when the two forces met. God has power over all things.

[42] You were on the nearer side of the valley, and they were on the farther side, and the caravan was below you. Had you wished to set a time by mutual agreement, you would certainly have disagreed on the timing. However, the encounter took place, so that God might settle a matter which had already been ordained, so that he who was to perish might perish after clear evidence of the truth, and he who was to live might live in clear evidence of the truth. Surely, God is all hearing and all-knowing. [43] God showed them to you in your dream as small in number. If He had shown them to you as many, you would have lost heart and disputed about the matter; but God saved you. He has full knowledge of what is in the human heart. [44] When at the time of your encounter He made them appear few in your eyes, and made you appear few in their eyes, it was so that God might bring about that which had been decreed. Everything returns to God.

[45] Believers! When you encounter a party, remain firm and remember God much, so that you may succeed. [46] Obey God and His Messenger, and avoid dissension, lest you falter and are no longer held in awe. Have patience: God is with those who are patient. [47] Do not be like those who left their homes full of conceit and showing off to others. They debar others from the path of God: but God has knowledge of all their actions.

[48] Satan made their deeds seem fair to them and said, ‘None of the people shall prevail against you this day; I shall be your protector!’ But when the two forces came in sight of each other, he turned on his heels, saying, ‘This is where I leave you: I see what you do not, and I fear God—God is severe in His punishment.’ [49] The hypocrites and those whose hearts were perverted said, ‘These people [the believers] must be deluded

by their religion.’ But he who
places his trust in God [knows
that], God is Almighty and Wise.
50 If you could see, when the
angels take the souls of those
who are bent on denying the
truth [at death], how they strike
their faces and backs: saying
‘Taste the punishment of the
Burning! 51 This is the
punishment for what your hands
committed—for, God never does
the least wrong to His servants.’
52 Like Pharaoh’s people and
those that have gone before them,
they rejected God’s signs and
God seized them for their sins.
God is strong, and severe in
punishment! 53 God would never
withdraw a favour that He had
conferred upon a people unless
they change what is in their
hearts. God is all hearing and all-
knowing. 54 Like Pharaoh’s
people and those who went
before them, they denied their
Lord’s signs: We destroyed them
for their sins, and We drowned
Pharaoh’s people—they were all
evil-doers.
55 The worst creatures in the
sight of God are those who reject
Him and will not believe; 56 those
with whom you have made a
covenant, and who break their
covenant on every occasion and
have no fear [of God]. 57 Should
you encounter them in war, then
deal with them in such a manner
that those that follow them
should abandon their designs
and may take warning. 58 And if
you learn of treachery on the part
of any people, throw their treaty
back at them, so as to be on equal
terms, for God does not love the
treacherous.
59 Let not the deniers think
that they will ever get away.
They cannot frustrate [God’s
purpose]. They have not the
power to do so. 60 Prepare any
strength you can muster against
them, and any cavalry with which
you can overawe God’s enemy
and your own enemy as well,
and others besides them whom
you do not know, but who are
known to God. Anything you
spend in the way of God will be
repaid to you in full. You will not
be wronged. 61 Then if they

should be inclined to make peace, make peace with them, and put your trust in God. Surely, it is He who is All Hearing and All Knowing. [62] Should they seek to deceive you, God is enough for you: it was He who strengthened you with His help, and rallied the faithful around you, and bound their hearts together. [63] Even if you had spent all that is on the earth, you could not have bound their hearts together, but God has bound them together. Surely, He is Mighty and Wise.

[64] O Prophet! God is sufficient for you and the believers who follow you. [65] Prophet, urge the believers to fight;[a] if there are twenty of you who are steadfast, they will overcome two hundred, and if there are a hundred of you, they will overcome a thousand of those who deny the truth, for they are devoid of understanding. [66] God has now lightened your burden, for He knows that there is weakness in you. If there are a hundred of you who are steadfast, they will overcome two hundred; and if there are a thousand of you, they will overcome two thousand by God's will. God is with the steadfast.

[67] It is not right for a Prophet to keep captives unless he has battled strenuously in the land. You desire the gain of this world, while God desires for you the Hereafter—God is mighty and wise. [68] Had it not been for a writ from God that had already gone forth, you would have been severely punished on account of what you took. [69] So eat of that which you have gained in war as lawful and good, and fear God. Surely, God is most forgiving and merciful.

[70] Prophet, tell those you have taken captive: 'If God knows of any good in your hearts, He will give you something better than what has been taken from you, and He will forgive you: God is Forgiving and Merciful.' [71] And if they would betray you, they betrayed God before, and He

---

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

gave [you] power over them. God is aware and wise.

[72] Those who have believed and migrated and struggled for God's cause with their possessions and persons, and those who have given refuge and help, are the friends and protectors of one another. But as for those who have come to believe without having migrated—you are in no way responsible for their protection until they migrate. If they seek your help in the matter of religion, it is incumbent on you to help them, except against a people with whom you have a pact. God sees what you do. [73] Those who deny the truth support one another. If you fail to do likewise, there will be great disorder and corruption in the land.

[74] Those who have believed and migrated and striven for the cause of God, as well as those who have given them refuge and support, are the true believers; they shall have forgiveness and an honourable provision. [75] And those who have believed later on, and emigrated and struggled for God's sake alongside you are also a part of you. But as to blood relations, they are nearer one to another in the Book of God. God has full knowledge of all things.

9. REPENTANCE

[1] This is a declaration of immunity from God and His Messenger to the polytheists, with whom you had made agreements. [2] So go about in the land for four months, but know that you cannot frustrate the plan of God and that God will disgrace those who deny the truth. [3] This is a proclamation from God and His Messenger to the people on the day of the Pilgrimage, that God is free of all obligation to the polytheists, and so is His Messenger. If you repent, it will be better for you, but if you turn away, then know that you cannot frustrate the plan of God.

Proclaim a grievous punishment
to those who are bent on denying
the truth. 4 As for those who
have honoured the treaty you
made with them and who have
not supported anyone against
you: fulfill your agreement with
them to the end of their term.
God loves those who are
righteous.

5 When the forbidden months
have passed, kill the polytheists
[who are at war with you]
wherever you find them.[a] Take
them captive, and besiege them,
and lie in wait for them at every
place of ambush. But if they
repent, and take to prayer
regularly and pay the alms, then
let them go their way. God is
forgiving and merciful. 6 If any
one of the polytheists seeks
asylum with you, grant him
asylum so that he may hear the
word of God; then convey him to
a place of safety. That is because
they are a people who have no
knowledge.

7 How can there be a treaty
with the polytheists on the part
of God and His Messenger,
except for those with whom you
entered into a treaty at the Sacred
Mosque? As long as they act
straight with you, act straight
with them. God loves those who
are righteous. 8 How [can there
be a treaty] for, if they get the
upper hand over you, they will
respect neither kinship nor
covenant. They [try to] please
you with their tongues but their
hearts reject you; most of them
are perfidious. 9 They have sold
God's revelations for a paltry
price, and barred others from
His path. How evil is what they
have been doing! 10 Where
believers are concerned, they
respect no tie of kinship or treaty.
They are people who overstep
the limits. 11 If they repent and
keep up their prayers and pay the
alms, then they are your brethren
in faith. We make Our messages
clear for people who are willing
to learn.

12 But if they break faith after
pledging it and revile your

---

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

religion, then fight these leaders
of unbelief, so that they may
desist, for they have no regard
for their pledged word. 13 Will
you not fight against those who
have broken their oaths and
conspired to banish the
Messenger? They were the first
to attack you. Do you fear them?
Surely God is more deserving of
your fear, if you are true
believers. 14 Fight them: God will
punish them at your hands, and
will disgrace them. He will help
you to overcome them and heal
the hearts of the faithful; 15 He
will remove the rage from their
hearts. God will turn in His
mercy to whom He wills. God is
all knowing and wise.

16 Do you [O believers] think
that you will be spared without
God identifying which of you
have struggled and did not take
anyone for friends and protectors
except God, His Messenger, and
the believers? God is fully aware
of all your actions.

17 It is not right that the
polytheists should frequent
God's places of worship while
they are self-confessed
unbelievers. It is they whose
works shall come to nothing and
they shall abide in Hell. 18 Only
he should tend God's houses of
worship who believes in God
and the Last Day, and is constant
in prayer, and spends in charity,
and stands in awe of none but
God: such people may hope to
be among the rightly guided.
19 Do you regard giving water to
pilgrims and tending the Sacred
Mosque as being equal to the
deeds of those who believe in
God and the Last Day and who
strive in God's path? They are
not equal in the sight of God.
God does not guide such unjust
people. 20 Those who have
believed and have migrated, and
have striven for God's sake with
their possessions and persons,
stand much higher in God's
esteem. It is they who will
triumph; 21 their Lord gives them
the good news of His mercy and
His pleasure and gardens of
eternal bliss. 22 There they will
dwell for ever. Truly there is an
immense reward with God.

[23] Believers, do not take your fathers and your brothers for allies if they choose denial of truth in preference to faith. Those among you who ally themselves with them are wrongdoers.
[24] Say, 'If your fathers and your sons and your brothers and your spouses and your tribe, and the worldly goods which you have acquired, and the commerce which you fear will decline, and the homes you love are dearer to you than God and His Messenger and the struggle for His cause, then wait until God fulfills His decree. God does not guide the disobedient people.'

[25] Indeed, God has helped you on many occasions. On the day of Hunayn, when you took pride in your great numbers, they proved of no avail to you—for the earth, despite all its vastness, became [too] narrow for you and you turned back, in retreat. [26] God
caused His tranquillity to descend upon His Messenger and the faithful: and sent down forces which you did not see: He punished those who denied the truth—for such is the recompense of all who deny the truth—[27] then
after that, God will turn in His mercy to whom He wills: God is forgiving and merciful.
[28] Believers, know that the polytheists are impure,[a] so they should not approach the Sacred Mosque after this year onwards. If you should fear destitution, God will enrich you out of His bounty, if He so wishes. God is aware and wise.

[29] Fight those from among the People of the Book who believe neither in God, nor in the Last Day, nor hold as unlawful what God and His Messenger have declared to be unlawful, nor follow the true religion, until they pay the tax willingly and
agree to submit. [30] The Jews say,
'Ezra is the son of God,' and the Christians say, 'The Messiah is the son of God.' These are but their baseless utterances. They imitate the assertions made in earlier times by those who deny

[a] The word impure (*najas*) connotes spiritual, not physical impurity.

the truth. May God destroy them!
How far astray they have been led!
31 They have taken their
learned men and their monks for
their lords besides God. So have
they taken the Messiah, son of
Mary, although they were
commanded to worship only the
One God. There is no deity but
He. He is far above whatever
they set up as His partners!
32 They want to extinguish
God's light with their mouths,
but God seeks only to perfect
His light, no matter how those
who deny the truth may abhor it.
33 It is He who has sent His
Messenger with guidance and
the religion of Truth, so that He
may make it prevail
[ideologically] over every other
religion, however much the
polytheists may hate this.
34 Believers, many religious
scholars and monks wrongfully
appropriate people's possessions
and turn people away from God's
path! Tell those who hoard gold
and silver instead of giving in
God's cause that they will have
a painful punishment: 35 on the
Day their treasure is heated up in
the fire of hell, their foreheads
and their sides and their backs
shall be branded with it, and they
will be told, 'This is what you
hoarded up for yourselves. Taste
then what you were hoarding.'
36 On the Day God created
heaven and earth, He decreed
that the number of months should
be twelve in number. Out of
these, four are sacred. That is the
true religion. Do not wrong your
souls in these months. Fight the
polytheists all together, as they
fight you all together,[a] and know
that God is with the righteous.
37 The postponing of [sacred
months] is but one more instance
of [their] refusal to acknowledge
the truth—by which those who
are bent on denying the truth are
led astray. They declare this to be
permissible in one year and
forbidden in another year, so
that they may adjust the months
which God has sanctified, thus
making lawful what God has

---

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

forbidden. Their evil deed seems
fair to them: God does not guide
those who deny the truth.

38 Believers, what is the matter
with you that when you are asked
to go forth in the cause of God,
you cling slothfully to the land?
Do you prefer the life of this
world to the Hereafter? But little
is the comfort of this life,
compared to that of the Hereafter.
39 If you do not go forth, He will
punish you sternly and replace
you by other people. You will
not harm Him in the least. God
has power over all things. 40 If
you do not support him
[Muhammad], know that God
did support him when those who
denied the truth expelled him
[when he was] the second of
two. When they were both in the
cave, he [Muhammad] told his
companion, 'Do not worry; for
God is with us.' So God sent His
tranquillity down on him and
aided him with forces invisible
to you and placed the word of
those who disbelieved lowest,
while God's word remained
supreme. God is powerful and wise.

41 Go forth, whether lightly or
heavily equipped, and strive and
struggle, with your goods and
your persons, for the cause of
God. That is better for you, if
you only knew. 42 Had the gain
been immediate and the journey
shorter, they would have
followed you: but the distance
seemed too great for them. Yet
they will swear by God, 'Had we
been able, we would have gone
out with you.' They bring ruin
upon themselves. God knows
that they are surely lying.

43 May God pardon you! Why
did you permit them to do so
before it had become clear to
you which ones were truthful, so
that you might recognize the
liars? 44 Those who believe in
God and the Last Day will never
ask you to exempt them from
striving with their wealth and
their lives—God best knows the
righteous— 45 only those seek
exemption who do not truly
believe in God and the Last Day,
and whose hearts have become a
prey to doubt. Because they
doubt, they waver. 46 If they had

wished to go forth, they would
surely have made some
preparation for it, but God
disliked their setting out [and
being raised high in God's eyes]
and held them back. They were
told to stay behind with those
who stay behind.
47 Had they gone forth with
you, they would only have proved
a source of evil for you, and
would have run back and forth
among you, seeking to sow
discord among you: and among
you there were some who would
have willingly listened to them.
God knows the evil-doers.
48 They have already tried to sow
dissension, and hatched plots
against you, until the truth
became manifest and God's will
prevailed, much to their disgust.
49 Some of them say, 'Give us
leave to stay behind and do not
put us to trial.' Surely, they have
already fallen into trial. Surely,
Hell shall engulf those who deny
the truth. 50 If good befalls you,
it grieves them, but if a
misfortune befalls you, they say,
'We took our precautions
beforehand!' They turn away
rejoicing. 51 Say, 'Nothing can
befall us, except what God has
ordained for us. He is our
Supreme Lord. In God let the
faithful put their trust.' 52 Say,
'Are you waiting for anything to
befall us except one of the two
best things [Victory in this world
or Paradise in the next]? But we
expect that God will send His
punishment to you either directly
from Himself, or by our hands.
So wait, if you will; we too, are
waiting with you.'
53 Say, 'Whether you give
willingly or unwillingly, your
offerings shall not be accepted
by God, for you are indeed a
disobedient people.' 54 The only
reason their contributions are
not accepted is that they have
denied God and His Messenger,
they come to the prayer half
heartedly, and they offer
contributions unwillingly. 55 Do
not let their wealth and children
impress you. For God seeks to
punish them through these things
in the life of this world, so that
their souls shall depart while

they are still denying the truth.
56 They swear by God that they
are believers like you; but they
are not. They are afraid [to appear
in their true colours]: 57 if they
could find a place of refuge, or
a cave or any hiding-place, they
would run there with frantic
haste.

58 Among them there are some
who find fault with you
concerning the distribution of
alms. If a share is given to them,
they are pleased, but if they
receive nothing, they grow
resentful. 59 If only they had been
content with what God and His
Messenger had given them and
had said, 'God is sufficient for
us. God will give us out of His
bounty, and so will His
Messenger. To God alone do we
turn with hope!' 60 Alms are only
for: the poor and the destitute,
for those who collect *zakat,* for
conciliating people's hearts, for
freeing slaves, for those in debt,
for spending for God's cause,
and for travellers in need. It is a
legal obligation enjoined by God.
God is all-knowing and wise.

61 Among them are those who
vex the Prophet by saying, 'He
listens to everyone.' Say, 'His
listening to everyone is good for
you; he believes in God and puts
his trust in the faithful, and is a
mercy to those of you who
believe. Those who annoy God's
Messenger shall have a painful
punishment.' 62 They swear by
God in order to please you
[believers]: but it would be more
fitting for them to please God
and His Messenger, if they are
believers. 63 Do they not know
that whoever opposes God and
His Messenger shall abide
forever in the fire of Hell? That
is the supreme humiliation.

64 The hypocrites are afraid
lest a chapter [of the Quran] be
sent down about them, telling
them what is in their hearts—
say, 'Go on mocking. God will
surely bring to light what you are
dreading.' 65 If you ask them,
they will say, 'We were only
joking and playing with words.'
Say, 'Would you make a mockery
of God and of His Revelations
and of His Messenger? 66 Make

no excuses; you rejected the faith after you accepted it.' If We pardon some of you, We will punish others amongst you, for they are guilty.'

67 The hypocrites, both men and women, are all alike. They enjoin what is evil, forbid what is right and they are niggardly when it comes to spending for the cause of God. They have forgotten God, so He has forgotten them. The hypocrites are the disobedient ones. 68 God has promised the hypocrites, both men and women, and those who deny the truth, the Fire of Hell. They shall abide in it forever. That is a sufficient recompense for them. God has rejected them. They shall have everlasting punishment. 69 Like those before you who were stronger than you, possessed more wealth and children; they enjoyed their share in this life as you have enjoyed yours; like them, you have indulged in idle talk. It is they whose works shall come to nothing in this world and in the life to come—and it is they who shall be the losers. 70 Have they never heard the stories about their predecessors, the peoples of Noah, 'Ad, Thamud, Abraham, Midian, and of the ruined cities? Their messengers brought them clear evidence of the truth. It was not God who wronged them; they wronged themselves.

71 The believers, both men and women, are friends to each other; they enjoin what is good and forbid evil, they attend to their prayers and pay the alms and obey God and His Messenger. On these God will have mercy, for God is almighty and wise. 72 God has promised the believers, both men and women, Gardens through which rivers flow, wherein they will abide, and fine dwelling places in Gardens of eternity. But the good pleasure of God is greater still. That is the supreme achievement.

73 O Prophet, strive against those who deny the truth and the hypocrites, and be firm against them. Their abode shall be Hell: an evil destination. 74 They swear

by God that they did not, yet they uttered the words of denial of truth after they had accepted Islam. They meditated a plot which they were unable to carry out, and being spiteful was their only response to God, who had enriched them out of His bounty, and to His Messenger. If they repent, it will indeed be better for them. If they turn away, God will punish them with grievous suffering in this world and the Hereafter, and there will be no one on earth to protect or help them.

75 There are some among them who pledged themselves to God, saying, 'If God gives us something out of His bounty, we shall certainly give alms and be righteous,'
76 but when He bestowed His favours on them they grew niggardly, and turned away in
aversion. 77 So He caused hypocrisy to settle in their hearts until the Day of their meeting with Him, because they broke their word to God, and because
they lied. 78 Do they not know that God knows what they conceal and what they talk about in secret? That God knows all that is hidden?

79 As for those who ridicule such believers as give alms freely for the sake of God and taunt those who find nothing to give save that which they earn through their toil, God will cause their ridicule to rebound on them: they shall have a painful
punishment. 80 It is the same whether or not you ask forgiveness for them. Even if you ask forgiveness for them seventy times, God will not forgive them, for they have denied God and His Messenger. God does not guide the evil-doers.

81 Those who stayed at home were glad that they were left behind by God's Messenger. They hated the thought of striving for God's cause with their possessions and their persons. They said, 'Do not go forth in this heat.' Say, 'The Fire of Hell is far hotter.' If only they could
understand. 82 Let them laugh a

little and weep much in return
for their misdeeds. 83 So
[Prophet], if God brings you
back to a group of them, and
should they ask your leave to go
forth with you, say, ‘You shall
never go forth with me and shall
never fight an enemy with me.
You chose to sit at home the first
time, so sit now with those who
remain behind.’ 84 And never [O
Muhammad] pray for one of
them who dies, nor stand by his
grave. For they denied God and
His Messenger, and died
rebellious.

85 Do not let their wealth and
their children dazzle you. God
only wants to punish them
through these things in this
world, and let their souls depart
while they deny the truth.
86 When a chapter is revealed
enjoining, ‘Believe in God and
strive for the cause of God along
with His Messenger,’ the wealthy
among them ask you to exempt
them saying, ‘Let us stay with
those who are to stay behind.’
87 They preferred to be with [the
women], who remained behind
[at home]: their hearts are sealed
and so they do not understand.
88 But the Messenger and those
who shared his faith strove hard
with their possessions and their
lives. It is they who shall have all
kinds of good, and it is they who
shall surely prosper. 89 God has
prepared for them Gardens
through which rivers flow, in
which they shall abide forever.
That is the supreme triumph.

90 Some of the desert Arabs,
too, came to make excuses,
asking to be granted exemption.
Those who lied to God and His
Messenger stayed behind at
home. Those who denied the
truth among them will be
afflicted with a painful
chastisement, 91 but no blame
shall attach to the weak, the sick,
and those who have no means to
spend, provided they are sincere
to God and His Messenger. There
is no reason to reproach those
who do good deeds; God is most
forgiving and merciful. 92 Nor
[does any blame] attach to those
who came to you to be provided
with mounts, and when you said,

'I can find no mounts for you,'
they went back, and tears welled
up in their eyes with sadness,
since they could not find
any way to contribute. 93 The
blameworthy are those who are
men of wealth and yet ask for
exemption. They are content to
be with those [women] who stay
behind. God has sealed their
hearts: they do not understand.
94 They will make excuses to
you when you return to them.
Say, 'Do not make excuses, we
will not believe you. God has
already informed us about you.
God will see your actions, as
will His Messenger. Then you
will be returned to the One who
knows the seen and the unseen
and He will tell you all that you
used to do.' 95 When you return,
they will swear to you by God so
that you may leave them alone,
so leave them alone. They are
unclean, and Hell will be their
home as a reward for their
actions—96 they will swear to
you, so that you may be pleased
with them. But [even] if you are
pleased with them, God is not
pleased with rebellious people.
97 The desert Arabs are more
stubborn in their denial of truth
and hypocrisy, and are the least
likely to be aware of the limits
which God has revealed to His
Messenger. God is all knowing
and wise. 98 Some desert Arabs
regard what they give for the
cause of God as a fine and wait
for some misfortune to befall
you. May ill-fortune befall them!
God hears all and knows all.
99 There are also those among
them who believe in God and the
Last Day and regard what they
spend for the cause of God as a
means of bringing them nearer
to God and of deserving the
prayers of the Messenger. This
shall certainly be for them a
means of drawing near to God.
God will admit them into His
mercy; God is indeed most
forgiving and merciful.
100 As for those who led the
way, the first of the emigrants
and the supporters, as well as
those who nobly followed them,
God is well pleased with them,
and they are well pleased with

Him; He has prepared for them
Gardens through which rivers
flow, where they shall dwell
forever. That is the supreme
achievement. 101 Some of the
desert Arabs around you are
hypocrites as are some of the
people of Madinah—they are
obdurate in their hypocrisy. You
do not know them, but We know
them. We shall cause them to suffer
doubly and then they will be
subjected to a great punishment.
102 There are others who have
confessed their wrongdoing, who
have done some good deeds and
some bad ones. It is likely that
God will turn to them in mercy.
Surely, God is most forgiving,
merciful. 103 Take alms out of
their wealth to cleanse them and
purify them, and pray for them;
your prayer will be a comfort to
them. God is all hearing, all
knowing. 104 Do they not know
that God accepts the repentance
of His servants and receives their
alms, and that God is the
Forgiving, the Merciful One?
105 Say, 'Do as you will. God
will watch your conduct and so
will His Messenger and the
believers. Soon you will be
brought back to Him who knows
what is hidden and what is
manifest: then He will show you
the truth of all that you have
done.' 106 [There are yet] others
whose cases are deferred until it
is God's will to judge them. He
will either punish them, or turn
in mercy to them; God is all
knowing and wise.
107 Then there are those who
built a mosque to cause harm, to
spread apostasy and disunity
among the believers—as an
outpost for those who from the
outset warred on God and His
Messenger. They swear, 'Our
intentions were nothing but
good,' but God bears witness
that they are lying. 108 Do not set
foot in it. Only a house of
worship, founded from the very
first day upon piety, is worthy of
your setting foot therein. In it are
men who love to be purified and
God loves those who purify
themselves. 109 Who is better, he
who founds his building on the
fear of God and His good

pleasure, or he who builds on the brink of a crumbling precipice, so that his house is ready to fall with him into the Fire of Hell? God does not guide the wrongdoers: [110] the building which they have built will never cease to be a source of deep disquiet in their hearts, until their hearts are cut to pieces. God is all knowing and wise.

[111] God has bought from the believers their lives and their wealth in return for the Garden. They fight for the cause of God and they kill and are killed.[a] It is a promise binding on Him in the Torah, the Gospel and the Quran, and who is truer to his promise than God? Rejoice then in the bargain you have made. That is the supreme achievement. [112] [The believers are] those who turn to God in repentance; who worship and praise Him; who go about in the land serving His cause, who bow down, who prostrate themselves, who enjoin good and forbid evil, and who observe the limits set by God. Give good news to the believers!

[113] It is not proper for the Prophet and those who believe to seek forgiveness for polytheists, even though they are close relatives, after it has become clear to them that they have earned the punishment of Hell. [114] Abraham's asking forgiveness for his father was only because of a promise he had made to him, but when it became clear to him, that he was God's enemy, he disassociated himself from him. Surely, Abraham was most tender-hearted and forbearing. [115] God would never lead a people astray after He has guided them and until He has made clear to them what they should guard against. God has knowledge of all things; [116] surely to God belongs the kingdom of the heavens and of the earth. He gives life and death. You have none besides God to protect or help you.

[117] God turned in mercy to the Prophet, and the emigrants and

---

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

the helpers who followed him in the hour of hardship. After the hearts of a group of them had almost faltered, He turned towards them, for He was compassionate and merciful towards them. 118 He has turned with mercy to the three whose case was deferred, when the earth, for all its spaciousness, closed in upon them, and their own souls seemed straitened to them and they realised that there was no refuge from God except in Him. He turned to them so that they might turn to Him. God is the Ever Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

119 Believers, fear God and stand with the truthful. 120 It was not proper for the people of Madinah and those desert Arabs around them to hold back from following God's Messenger, and to prefer their own lives to his life. This is because whenever they suffer from thirst or weariness or hunger for God's cause, and whenever they take any step which provokes those who deny the truth, or inflicts any loss upon the enemy, it shall be counted as a good deed in the sight of God—God will not deny the righteous their reward— 121 and whenever they spend anything [for the sake of God], be it little or much, and whenever they traverse the land [in God's cause]—it is recorded to their credit, and God will grant them the best reward for all that they have been doing.

122 It is not right that all the believers should go out [in time of war] all together. Why, then, does not a party from every group come to [the Prophet] in order to acquire a deeper knowledge of religion and to warn their people, so that they can guard themselves against evil?

123 Believers! Fight against those deniers of the truth who are near you.[a] Deal firmly with them. Know that God is with those who fear Him. 124 Whenever a chapter is sent

[a] See pages xiv to xviii of the Introduction.

down, there are some of them who say, 'Which of you has had his faith increased by it?' But, as for those who believe, it increases their faith and they rejoice, [125] but as for those with sickness in their hearts, it adds defilement to their defilement and they die in a state of denial of truth. [126] Do they not see that they are tried every year once or twice? Yet they do not repent, nor would they be admonished. [127] Whenever a chapter is revealed, they glance at each other, asking, 'Is anyone watching?' Then they turn away. God has turned their hearts away, because they are people who do not understand.

[128] There has come to you a Messenger of your own. Your suffering distresses him: he is deeply concerned for your welfare and full of kindness and mercy towards the believers. [129] But if they turn away, say, 'God suffices me: there is no deity but He: in Him I have put my trust. He is the Lord of the Glorious Throne.'

10. JONAH

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] *Alif Lam Ra*

These are the verses of the Book of Wisdom. [2] Does it seem strange to people that We have sent revelation to a man from among themselves, saying, 'Warn mankind and give glad tidings to the believers that they have a true rank [of honour] with their Lord?' Those who deny the truth say, 'This man is clearly a sorcerer.'

[3] Truly, your Lord is God who created the heavens and the earth in six days [periods], then He ascended the Throne, disposing the whole affair. No one may intercede with Him save with His permission. Such is God, your Lord, so worship Him alone. Will you not take heed? [4] To Him

you shall all return. God's promise is true; He originates Creation, then He restores it, so that He may reward with justice those who believe and do good works. Those who have denied the truth shall have boiling water to drink, and a painful punishment, because of their denial.

[5] It is He who made the sun radiate a brilliant light and the moon shed its lustre, and ordained for it stages so that you may learn to count out the years and [to make other such] reckoning of time. God has not created all these without a purpose. He makes plain His revelations to men of understanding. [6] In the alternation of night and day, and in all that God has created in the heavens and the earth, there are signs for a God-fearing people.[a] [7] Those who entertain no hope of meeting Us, being pleased and contented with the life of this world, and those who give no heed to Our signs, [8] shall have their abode in the Fire in requital for their deeds. [9] Those who believe and do good deeds will be guided by their Lord because of their faith. Rivers shall flow at their feet in the Gardens of Bliss. [10] In that [state of happiness] they will call out; 'Glory be to You, O God!', while their greeting in it will be: 'Peace!' And the close of their call will be, 'All praise is due to God, the Lord of the Universe!'

[11] Had God hastened the punishment of men as He hastens the good, the end of their term of life would already have been reached. We leave those who do not hope to meet Us groping along in their arrogance. [12] Whenever any trouble befalls a person, he prays to Us all the time, lying on his side, sitting or

---

[a] In the heavens and on the earth, there are countless signs, but they serve as a lesson only for those who are God-fearing. Fear, or apprehension, is a thing which makes a man serious. Unless a man is serious, he will not pay full attention to matters of importance and will not understand their various aspects.

standing; but when We remove
his trouble, he goes on his way
as if he had never prayed to Us
for the removal of his trouble.
Thus it is that the doings of the
transgressors are made to look
fair to them.
13 And indeed, before your
time We destroyed [whole]
generations when they
[persistently] did evil; their
messengers came to them with
clear signs, but they would not
believe. Thus We requite the
guilty. 14 Then We made you
their successors in the land, so
that We might observe how you
would conduct yourselves.
15 When Our clear revelations
are recited to them, those who do
not expect to meet Us say, ‘Bring
us a different Quran, or make
some changes in it.’ Say, ‘It is
not for me to change it of my
own accord. I follow only what
is revealed to me. I fear, if I were
to disobey my Lord, the
punishment on a Dreadful Day.’
16 Say, ‘If God had so wished, I
would not have recited it to you,
nor would He have brought it to
your knowledge. Indeed, I have
spent a whole lifetime among
you before it came to me. How
can you not use your reason?’
17 Who is more unjust than the
man who invents a falsehood
about God or denies His signs?
Surely, the guilty shall never
prosper.
18 Instead of God they worship
what neither harms nor benefits
them, and they say: ‘These are
our intercessors with God.’ Say,
‘Do you inform God about
something in heavens and on
earth that He does not know?
Glory be to Him; may He be
Exalted over whatever they
associate [with Him]!’ 19 Mankind
was only one community, but
then they differed, and had it not
been for a prior word from your
Lord, their differences would have
been settled for them.
20 They ask, ‘Why has no sign
been sent down to him from his
Lord?’ Tell them, ‘God alone has
knowledge of the unseen. So
wait; I too will wait with you.’
21 Whenever We let mankind
taste mercy after some adversity

has afflicted them, they forthwith turn to devising false arguments against Our signs. Say, 'God is swifter in His devising! Our angels are recording your intrigues.'

22 It is God who enables you to travel on land and sea. And when you are sailing on ships and rejoicing in the favourable wind, a storm arrives, and the waves surge upon those on board from every side and they think they are encompassed, then they make a fervent appeal to God, saying in all sincerity, 'If You deliver us from this, we will surely be of
the thankful.' 23 But when He
has delivered them, they begin, wrongfully to commit excesses in the land. O you men, your excesses only affect your own selves. Have the enjoyment of the present life. Then to Us you shall return; and We will inform you of all that you have done.

24 The life of the world is like the water which We send down from the sky, and which is absorbed by the plants of the earth, from which men and cattle eat. But when the earth has taken on its finest appearance, and looks beautiful, and its people think they have it under their control, then by day or by night, Our command comes to it and We convert it into a field of stubble, as if nothing had existed there the day before. Thus We make plain Our revelations for those who reflect.

25 God calls man to the home of peace and He guides whom
He wills to a straight path.
26 Those who do good works
shall have a good reward and more besides. No darkness and no ignominy shall cover their faces. They are destined for Paradise wherein they shall dwell
forever. 27 But as for those who
have done evil deeds, the recompense shall be in proportion. They will have none to defend them against God. Ignominy shall cover them, as though their faces were veiled by the night's own darkness. It is they who are destined for the fire, where they will live forever.

28 On the Day when We gather them all together, We shall say to

those who ascribed partners to
God, 'Keep to your places, you
and your partners!' Then We shall
separate them from one another
and their partner-gods will say, 'It
was not us that you worshipped.
29 God suffices as a witness
between us and you. We were
entirely unaware that you
worshipped us.' 30 Then every
soul shall realize what it has
done. They shall be returned to
God, their true Master, and
anything they had invented will
forsake them.

31 Say, 'Who provides [suste-
nance] for you from heaven and
earth? Who is it who controls the
ears and the eyes? Who brings
forth the living from the dead,
and the dead from the living?
And who governs all affairs?'
They will say, 'God'. Then say,
'Will you not then fear Him?
32 That is God, your true Lord.
What is there, besides the truth,
but error? How then can you turn
away?' 33 Thus the Word of your
Lord is proved true against those
who are disobedient. They will
not believe.

34 Ask then, 'Can any of your
partner-gods originate creation,
and then reproduce it?' Say, 'It is
God who originates creation and
then restores it: how then are you
so misled?' 35 Say, 'Does any of
your partner-gods guide one to
the Truth?' Say, 'It is God who
guides to the truth. Then, is He
who guides to the truth more
worthy to be followed or one
who cannot find the way himself
unless he be guided? What is the
matter with you? How ill you
judge!' 36 Most of them follow
nothing but mere conjecture. But
conjecture is of no use against
the Truth. God is well aware of
what they do.

37 This Quran is not such as
could have been produced by
anyone but God. It fulfills that
[the predictions] which came
before it and gives a fuller
explanation of the [earlier]
Revelations. There is no doubt
about it: it is from the Lord of the
Universe. 38 Do they say, 'He has
fabricated it?' Say, 'Bring me
one chapter like it. Call on whom
you may besides God to help

you, if what you say be true!'
39 Indeed, they are denying
something which they cannot
comprehend; the reality not yet
having dawned on them.
Likewise those before them
rejected the truth. But see what
was the end of the wrongdoers.

40 Some of them will believe
in it [the Quran], while others
will not. And your Lord is fully
aware of the evil-doers. 41 If they
should reject you, say, 'My deeds
are mine and your deeds are
yours. You are not accountable
for my actions, nor am I
accountable for what you do.'
42 Some of them appear to be
listening to you; but can you
make the deaf hear, incapable as
they are of understanding?
43 Some of them look fixedly at
you; but can you make the blind
see, bereft as they are of sight?
44 Surely, God does not wrong
people at all, but people wrong
themselves.

45 And on the Day when He
shall gather them together, it will
seem to them as if they had not
tarried in the world longer than
an hour of a day. They will
recognize one another; lost
indeed will be those who
considered it a lie that they were
destined to meet God, and did
not follow the right path.
46 Whether We show you
something of what We have
promised them or cause you to
die [before that], to Us they shall
return. God is Witness to all that
they do.

47 Every nation has a
messenger. Once their messenger
has come, judgement will be
passed upon them in all fairness
and they will not be wronged.

48 They say, 'When will this
promise come to pass—if you
speak the truth?' 49 Say, 'I have
no control over any harm or
benefit to myself, except by the
will of God. For every people,
however, there is an appointed
term. When the end of their term
arrives, they cannot postpone it
for an hour, nor can they advance
it.' 50 Say, 'If His punishment
comes upon you in the dead of
night, or by the light of day, how
will the guilty escape it? 51 Will

you believe in it only after it has
overtaken you, although it was
your wish to hurry it on?' 52 Then
the evil-doers will be told, 'Taste
the everlasting punishment. Have
you not been rewarded according
to your deeds?'

53 They enquire of you if this
will really happen. Tell them,
'Yes, by my Lord. Most certainly
it will happen, and you cannot
avert it.' 54 If every wrongdoer
possessed all that was on the
earth, he would seek to ransom
himself with it: when they see
the punishment, they will repent
in secret. But judgement will be
passed upon them in all fairness,
and they will not be wronged.
55 Assuredly, everything that is
in the heavens and on the earth
belongs to God. Assuredly, God's
promise is true. Yet most of them
do not realize it. 56 He gives life
and brings about death, and to
Him you shall all return.

57 O mankind! There has come
to you an admonition from your
Lord, a cure for what is in the
hearts, and a guide and a blessing
to true believers. 58 Say, 'In the
grace and mercy of God let them
rejoice, for these are better than
the worldly riches which they
hoard.' 59 Say, 'Have you
considered the provision God
has sent down for you, and have
you made some of it unlawful
and some lawful?' Say, 'Has
God given you permission [to do
this], or are you inventing
falsehoods about God?' 60 What
will they think, those who invent
falsehoods about God, on the
Day of Resurrection? God is
bountiful to men: yet most of
them are not grateful.

61 In whatever activity you may
be engaged, and whichever part
of the Quran you recite, and
whatever deed you do, We are
witness to it when you are
engaged in it. Not the smallest
particle on the earth or in heaven
is hidden from your Lord; and
there is nothing smaller or bigger
but is recorded in a clear Book.
62 Those who are close to God
shall certainly have no fear, nor
shall they grieve. 63 For those
who believe and are mindful of
God, 64 there is good news in

this life and in the Hereafter: the
Word of God shall never change.
That is the supreme triumph.
65 Do not let their words grieve
you. Surely, all might and glory
belongs to God alone; He is the
all-hearing, the all-knowing.
66 Surely, all who are in the
heavens and on the earth belong
to Him. What do those follow,
who appeal to associates instead
of to God? They merely follow
conjecture and they are only
guessing. 67 It is He who has
made the night dark for you so
that you may rest in it, and the
day a source of light. Surely,
there are signs in this for a
people who listen.

68 They say, 'God has begotten
a son.' Glory be to Him. He is the
Self-Sufficient One; everything
in the heavens and on the earth
belongs to Him. Do you have
any authority for this? Would
you ascribe to God something
which you do not know? 69 Say,
'Those who invent falsehoods
about God shall not prosper.'
70 Their portion is short-lived
enjoyment in this world; but to
Us they shall return. Then We
shall make them taste a severe
punishment, because of their
denial of truth.

71 Tell them the story of Noah.
He said to his people, 'My
people, if my presence among
you and my preaching to you of
God's revelations offends you,
know that I put my trust in God,
so agree on your course of action,
along with your partner-gods,
and let no hesitation deflect you
from it, then put it into effect
against me, and give me no
respite. 72 If you turn away from
me, remember I demand no
recompense from you. Only God
will reward me and I have been
commanded to submit
completely to Him.' 73 Then they
rejected him; then We delivered
him and those with him in the
Ark, and We made them
successors; while We drowned
the others who belied Our signs.
Observe then the fate of those
who had been forewarned.

74 After him We sent other
messengers to their respective
peoples, and they brought them

clear proofs. But they would not
believe in the truth, because they
had rejected it before. Thus We
seal up the hearts of the
transgressors.

75 Then We sent forth Moses
and Aaron with Our signs to
Pharaoh and his nobles, but they
behaved arrogantly, for they were
wicked people. 76 When the truth
came to them from Us, they said,
‘This is plain sorcery.’ 77 Moses
replied, ‘Do you speak thus of
the truth after it has been brought
to you? Can this be sorcery?
Sorcerers never prosper.’ 78 They
said, ‘Have you come to turn us
away from what we found our
forefathers following, so that the
two of you might become
supreme in this land? We will
never believe in you.’

79 Then Pharaoh said, ‘Bring
me every skilled magician!’
80 When the magicians came,
Moses said to them, ‘Cast down
whatever you are going to cast
down.’ 81 And when they had
done so, Moses said, ‘What you
have wrought is mere sorcery.
Surely, God will bring it to
nothing. Truly, God does not
support the work of mischief-
makers; 82 God establishes the
truth by His words, however
much the sinners may dislike it.’

83 But none save a few youths
declared their faith in Moses,
[while others held back] for fear
that Pharaoh and his nobles
would persecute them. Pharaoh
was high and mighty in the land.
And one who transgressed all
bounds. 84 Moses said, ‘O my
people; if you believe in God,
[and] if you have surrendered
yourselves to Him, then in Him
alone put your trust.’ 85 They
said, ‘In God we put our trust.
Our Lord, make us not a trial
[the subject of persecution] for
the oppressors. 86 And deliver us
by Your mercy from the people
who deny the truth.’

87 We revealed [Our will] to
Moses and his brother, saying,
‘Set aside for your people some
houses in the city and turn them
into places of worship, and be
constant in prayer! And give [O
Moses] the good news to the
believers.’

88 Moses prayed, ‘Our Lord, You have bestowed upon Pharaoh and his nobles pomp and wealth in the present life, whereby they lead people astray from Your path. Our Lord, destroy their riches and harden their hearts, so that they shall not believe until they are faced with grievous punishment.’

89 God said, ‘Your prayer is granted, so continue, then, both of you, steadfastly on the right path, and do not follow the path of those who have no knowledge.’

90 So We brought the Children of Israel across the sea. Pharaoh and his troops pursued them arrogantly and aggressively. When he was about to drown, [Pharaoh] exclaimed, ‘I believe that there is no deity save Him in whom the Children of Israel believe, and I am of those who surrender themselves to Him!’ 91 ‘Only now? When you had always been a rebel, and a wrongdoer. 92 So We shall save your body this day, so that you may serve as a sign for those who come after you: for many people are indeed heedless of Our signs.’

93 We settled the Children of Israel in a blessed land, and We provided them with good things. And it was not until knowledge [of God’s revelation] was granted to them that they began to hold divergent views. Your Lord will judge between them on the Day of Resurrection concerning that in which they differed.

94 If you are in any doubt concerning what We have sent down to you, then question those who have read the Book before you: the Truth has come to you from your Lord, so do not be one of the doubters—95 do not be one who rejects God’s signs, for then you would become one of the losers.

96 Those against whom your Lord’s word has been confirmed will never believe; 97 not even if every Sign were to come to them—until they see the painful punishment. 98 Why was there no other people, save the people of Jonah, who should have believed so that their belief

would have benefited them. Once
they believed, We lifted the
torment of shame from them
during their worldly life and let
them enjoy Our provision for a
while.

99 Had your Lord pleased, all
the people on earth would have
believed in Him, without
exception. So will you compel
people to become believers?
100 No soul can believe except by
the will of God. He will place
the filth [of doubt] upon those
who do not use their reason.

101 Say, 'Look at whatever
[exists] in heavens and on earth.'
But signs and warnings do not
benefit the unbelievers. 102 What
can they be waiting for but the
punishment that came to those
before them? Say, 'So wait; I am
one of those waiting with you.'
103 Then We shall save Our
messengers and those who
believe. Thus We have made it
incumbent upon Ourself to save
the believers.

104 Say, 'O people, if you are
in doubt concerning my religion,
then [know that] I do not worship
those whom you worship instead
of God, but rather I worship God
who will cause you to die, for I
am commanded to be one of the
believers.' 105 And set your face
towards the [true] faith in all
uprightness, and do not be one
of those who ascribe partners to
God; 106 and do not invoke
besides God what can neither
help nor harm you. If you do,
you will be one of the
wrongdoers. 107 If God inflicts
harm on you, no one can remove
it but He, and if He intends good
for you, no one can withhold His
bounty; He grants His bounty to
any of His servants whom He
will. He is the Most Forgiving,
and the Most Merciful.

108 Say, 'Mankind, Truth has
come to you from your Lord!
Anyone who accepts guidance is
guided only for his own sake;
and he who goes astray does so
at his own peril. I am not
appointed as your keeper.'
109 Follow what is revealed to
you, [O Prophet], and be steadfast
until God gives His judgement.
He is the Best of Judges.

11. HUD

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Alif Lam Ra*

[This is] a Book, with verses
which are fundamental [in
nature], and then expounded in
detail by One who is all wise and
all aware. 2 [It teaches] that you
should worship none but God. I
am sent to you from Him to warn
you and to give you good tidings.
3 Seek forgiveness from your
Lord; then turn towards Him [in
repentance]. He will make
generous provision for you for
an appointed term and will
bestow His grace on all who
merit it! But if you turn away,
then I fear for you the torment of
a dreadful Day: 4 to God you
shall all return; and He has power
over all things.

5 See how they cover
themselves up to hide [their
thoughts] from Him. But when
they cover themselves up with
their garments, He knows what
they hide and what they reveal.
He knows their innermost
thoughts. 6 There is not a living
creature on the earth but it is for
God to provide its sustenance.
He knows its dwelling and its
[final] resting place. All this is
recorded in a clear book.

7 Enthroned above the waters,
it was He who created the
heavens and the earth in six
Days [periods], in order to test
which of you is best in conduct.
If you say, 'You will [all] be
raised up after death,' those who
deny the truth will say, 'This is
just sheer sorcery!' 8 If We defer
their punishment till an appointed
time, they ask, 'What is holding
it back?' On the Day when it
overtakes them, there will be
nothing to avert it from them;
and what they used to mock at
shall encompass them.

9 When We bestow upon man
a measure of Our grace and then
take it away from him, he yields
to despair and becomes

ungrateful. [10] And if, after
adversity, We let him taste good
fortune he says, 'All my ills are
gone.' He becomes exultant and
boastful. [11] Not so those who are
patient and do good deeds. They
shall have forgiveness and a great
reward.

[12] You may [feel the
inclination] to leave aside a part
of what is revealed to you and
you may be distressed because
they say, 'Why has no treasure
been sent down to him, why has
no angel come with him?' But
you are only to give warning.
God is the guardian of all things.
[13] If they say, 'He has invented it
himself.' Say, 'If you are truthful,
produce ten invented chapters
like it, and call on whom you can
besides God, to help you.' [14] But
if they do not respond to you,
then know that this [Quran] is
sent down with God's knowledge
and that there is no deity but
Him. Will you then surrender
yourselves to Him?

[15] Those who desire the life of
this world and all its finery shall
be repaid in full in this life for
their deeds—nothing shall be
denied them. [16] These are the
people who, in the world to
come, shall have nothing but
Hellfire and all that they used to
do shall be in vain.

[17] Can they be compared to
those who possess a clear proof
from their Lord, followed up by
a witness from Him, preceded by
the Book of Moses, as a guide
and a mercy? These people
believe in it; whereas those
groups that deny its truth are
promised the Fire. Therefore,
have no doubt about it. It is the
truth from your Lord, but most
people do not believe it.

[18] Who does greater wrong
than the one who fabricates a lie
against God? Such people shall
be brought before their Lord,
and the witnesses will say, 'These
are the ones who lied about their
Lord.' Surely God's rejection is
merited by such wrongdoers.
[19] Such as those who turn others
away from the path of God and
seek to make it appear crooked:
these are the ones who deny the
Hereafter. [20] They can never

frustrate God on earth, nor have they any protectors besides God. They will be subjected to double punishment, for they could neither hear nor see. 21 It is such as these who have ruined their souls, and that which they fabricated shall fail them. 22 In the Hereafter, it is they who shall be the greatest losers.

23 Those who have believed and done good deeds and humbled themselves before their Lord are destined for Paradise, and they will live in it forever. 24 These two groups are like the blind and the deaf as compared with those who can see and hear. Can the two be equal? Will you not then understand?[a]

25 We sent Noah to his people. He said, 'I have come to you with a clear warning: 26 worship none but God. I fear lest punishment befall you on a woeful Day.' 27 The leaders of his people, who refused to acknowledge the truth, said, 'We regard you only as a human being like ourselves. We do not see that anyone follows you but the lowliest of us, those of immature judgement. We see no superior merit in you; in fact we believe you are a liar.'

28 He said, 'O my people, tell me: if I have clear evidence from my Lord and He has favoured me with grace from Himself, which you have been unable to recognize, can we force it on you against your will? 29 O my people, I do not ask you for any money for this; my reward comes only from God. I will not drive away those who believe; they shall surely meet their Lord. Yet I see that you are a people who act out of ignorance. 30 My people, who would support me against God if I were to drive them off ? Will you not take heed? 31 I do not say to you that I possess God's treasures, or that

[a] Faith, humility and righteous deeds—all three are different aspects of the same reality. Faith is the conscious discovery of God and His perfect attributes. Humility is the state of the heart which necessarily develops in man as a result of the discovery of God.

I have knowledge of the unseen,
or that I am an angel. Nor do I
say concerning those upon
whom you look with contempt,
that God will not bestow any
good upon them—God knows
best what is in their hearts. If I
did, I would certainly be one of
the wrongdoers.'

32 'Noah,' they replied, 'you
have argued with us, and argued
to excess. Now bring down upon
us what you threaten us with, if
you speak the truth!?' 33 He said,
'It is God who will bring it down
upon you, if He wishes, and you
will not be able to escape. 34 My
advice will not benefit you, no
matter how sincerely I want to
advise you, if God lets you go
astray. He is your Lord and you
will all return to Him.'

35 If they say, 'He has invented
it himself,' say to them, 'If I have
indeed invented this myself, then
may I be punished for my sin; I
am innocent of the crimes that
you commit.'

36 God's will was revealed to
Noah, 'No more of your people
will believe in you than those
who already believe; do not
grieve, therefore, over what they
have been doing. 37 Build the
Ark under Our eyes and in
accordance with Our revelation.
Do not plead with Me concerning
the evil-doers. They shall
certainly be drowned.' 38 So he
began to build the Ark, and
whenever leaders of his people
passed by, they scoffed at him.
He said, 'If you are scoffing at
us, we shall scoff at you [and
your ignorance], just as you scoff
at us: 39 you will soon come to
know who will receive a
humiliating punishment, and find
unleashed against him an
everlasting punishment.'

40 When Our command came,
and water gushed forth in
torrents, We said to Noah, 'Take
into the Ark a pair from every
species, and your own family—
except those on whom the
sentence has already been passed,
and all the true believers.' But
only a few believed along with
him. 41 Noah said, 'Embark on
it. In the name of God, it shall set
sail and cast anchor. Truly, my

Lord is forgiving and merciful.'
42 The Ark sailed along with them
through mountainous waves.
Noah called out to his son who
stood apart, 'O my son! Embark
with us and do not be among the
deniers!' 43 He replied, 'I shall
seek refuge on a mountain, which
will save me from the water.'
Noah cried, 'Today there is no
refuge for anyone from God's
command except for those to
whom He shows mercy!'
Thereupon, a wave swept in
between them, and Noah's son
was among those who were
drowned. 44 A voice cried out,
'Earth, swallow up your waters.
O sky, cease your rain.' The
waters receded. The command
was fulfilled. The Ark came to
rest on Mount Judi. It was said,
'Away with the wrong-doing
people.'

45 Noah called out to his Lord,
saying, 'My Lord, my son was a
part of my family. Your promise
was surely true. You are the most
just of all judges.' 46 God said,
'Noah, he was not one of your
family. For, indeed, he was
unrighteous in his conduct. Do
not question Me about something
of which you have no knowledge;
I admonish you lest you become
like an ignorant man.' 47 He said,
'My Lord, I take refuge with You
from asking You something of
which I have no knowledge. If
You do not forgive me and show
me mercy, I shall be one of the
losers.'

48 God said, 'Noah, go ashore
in peace; Our blessings upon
you and upon the people who are
with you and upon some of the
descendants of those who are
with you. [As for the
unrighteous] We shall grant
provision for a time, then a
grievous punishment from Us
shall afflict them.' 49 These are
tidings of the unseen that We
reveal to you, [O Prophet], which
you did not know before, nor did
your people, so be patient: the
future belongs to the God-
fearing.

50 To 'Ad We sent their brother
Hud. He said, 'O my people,
worship God alone; you have no
god but Him. You do nothing but

fabricate lies. [51] I ask of you nothing in return for this [Message]. My recompense is with Him who has created me. Why do you not use your reason? [52] My people, seek forgiveness of your Lord and turn to Him in repentance. He will send from the sky abundant rain upon you; He will add strength to your strength. Do not turn away from Him as evil-doers.'

[53] They replied, 'Hud, you have not brought us any clear evidence and we shall not forsake our deities merely at your behest, nor will we believe in you. [54] We can only say that some of our gods have stricken you with evil.' He said, 'I call God to witness, and you also bear witness, that I disown those which you associate with God. [55] So scheme against me, all of you together, and then grant me no respite. [56] I have put my trust in God, my Lord and your Lord. For there is no living creature which He does not hold by its forelock. My Lord is on the straight path.

[57] 'If you turn away, I have conveyed to you the message with which I was sent. My Lord will make another people your successors and you cannot harm Him in the least. For my Lord is guardian over all things.' [58] When Our command came, We delivered Hud and those who believed with him by Our special mercy. We saved them from a severe punishment. [59] Such were the 'Ad who denied the signs of their Lord and disobeyed His messengers and followed the bidding of every headstrong enemy of truth. [60] They were pursued by a curse in this world as they will be on the Day of Resurrection. Indeed, the 'Ad denied their Lord. So away with the 'Ad, the people of Hud!

[61] To the Thamud We sent their brother Salih. He said, 'My people, worship God! You have no god but Him. It was He who brought you into being from the earth and settled you upon it and so ask His forgiveness. Turn to Him in repentance. My Lord is near and responsive.' [62] They said, 'O Salih! We had great

hopes in you. Do you forbid us to worship what our fathers worshipped? We are in grave doubt, amounting to suspicion, concerning that to which you call us.' [63] He said, 'O my people, tell me: if I have clear evidence from my Lord, and He has granted His mercy, who then will support me against God, if I disobey Him? You would only make my loss greater.

[64] My people! This she-camel of God is a sign for you. So leave her alone to graze on God's earth. And do her no harm, lest you should be instantly afflicted with a torment.' [65] But they hamstrung her. He [Salih] said, 'Enjoy yourselves in your homes for three more days. This warning will not prove false.' [66] Then when Our command came by Our grace, We saved Salih and those who believed along with him from the disgrace of that day. Surely, your Lord is powerful and mighty. [67] The wrongdoers were overtaken by a dreadful blast and they lay dead in their homes, [68] as if they had never dwelt there. The Thamud denied their Lord; cursed are the tribe of Thamud.

[69] Our messengers came to Abraham with good news and greeted him with, 'Peace.' He too said, 'Peace be on you,' and hastened to bring a roasted calf. [70] But when he saw that they made no move to eat, he found this strange and became afraid of them. They said, 'Do not be afraid, for we have been sent to the people of Lot.' [71] His wife, who was standing nearby, laughed when We gave her the good news of Isaac, and after Isaac, Jacob. [72] She said, 'Alas! Shall I bear a child in this old age, while my husband here is also old? This is indeed a strange thing!' [73] They said, 'Are you astonished at God's command? May the mercy of God and His blessings be upon you, O people of this house. Surely, He is praiseworthy and glorious.'

[74] When the fear had left Abraham, and the glad tidings had been conveyed to him, he began to plead with Us for Lot's

people, 75 for Abraham was
forbearing, tender-hearted and
oft-returning to God. 76 We said,
‘Abraham, cease your pleading:
the command of your Lord has
gone forth. There shall fall upon
them a punishment which none
can avert!’

77 When Our messengers came
to Lot, he was uneasy on this
account and felt powerless to
protect them. He said, ‘This is a
dreadful day.’ 78 His people, who
were used to committing foul
deeds, came running to him. He
said, ‘My people, here are my
daughters. They are purer for
you, [if you marry] so have some
fear of God and do not disgrace
me before my guests. Is there not
a single right-minded man among
you?’ 79 They replied, ‘You know
we have no need of your
daughters. You know very well
what we are seeking.’

80 He said, ‘If only I had the
strength to stop you or could
take refuge in some powerful
support!’ 81 They said, ‘Lot, we
are your Lord’s messengers. By
no means shall they reach you!
So depart with your family while
it is yet night and let none of you
look back. But your wife will
suffer the fate that befalls the
others. Their appointed time is
the morning: is the morning not
near?’ 82 When Our command
came, We turned that town upside
down and We rained upon it
stones of clay, layer upon layer,
83 marked for them by the decree
of your Lord. The punishment of
the unjust was not far off.

84 To the people of Midian, We
sent their brother Shu‘ayb. He
said, ‘My people, worship God.
You have no deity other than
Him. Do not give short measure
and short weight. I see you are
prospering. I fear for you the
punishment of a fateful Day.
85 O my people, [always] give
full measure and weight, in all
fairness and do not defraud
people by making short delivery,
and do not spread corruption in
the land. 86 What God leaves
with you is the best for you, if
you are believers. I have not
been appointed as your keeper.’

87 They said, ‘Shu‘ayb, does

your prayer tell you that we should abandon what our forefathers worshipped and that we should stop disposing of our belongings as we please? You are indeed the only wise and rightly-guided man!'

88 [Shu'ayb] said, 'O my people! What do you think? If I have clear evidence from my Lord, and He has sustained me with fair sustenance from Himself [should I not guide you?]. I have no desire to do, out of opposition to you, what I am asking you not to do. I only want to reform you as far as I can. Nor can I succeed without God's help. In Him I have put my trust
and to Him I turn. 89 O my people,
do not let your opposition to me bring upon you a fate similar to the peoples of Noah or Hud or Salih; nor is it long since the people of Lot were punished!
90 Seek forgiveness of your Lord and turn to Him in repentance. For my Lord is indeed merciful and loving.'

91 They replied, 'Shu'ayb, we do not understand much of what you say. In fact, we see that you are powerless among us. Were it not for your clan, we would have stoned you, for you are not strong
against us.' 92 He said, 'My
people, is my tribe mightier to you than God? You put Him behind you, turning your backs on Him! Surely, my Lord encompasses all that you do.
93 My people, do what you will
and so shall I. You will certainly come to know who will receive a punishment to disgrace him, and who is a liar. Wait on; I shall wait on with you.'

94 When Our command came, We saved Shu'ayb and those who believed with him as a mercy from Ourself, while the blast overtook the wrongdoers, so that they lay dead in their
homes, 95 as though they had
never dwelt therein. Oh, away with the people of Midian, just as happened with the Thamud!

96 We sent forth Moses with Our signs and with manifest
authority, 97 to Pharaoh and his
nobles. But they followed the command of Pharaoh and the

command of Pharaoh was not rightly directed. 98 He shall stand at the head of his people on the Day of Resurrection, and shall lead them into the Fire. Evil is the place to which they shall be led. 99 A curse followed them in this world, and shall follow them on the Day of Resurrection. What a foul gift to be given!

100 We relate to you such accounts of earlier towns: some of them are still standing; while others have ceased to exist; 101 We did not wrong them; they wronged themselves; the deities they called on besides God availed them nothing: when God's command came upon them, they only added to their ruin.

102 Such is the punishment of your Lord when He seizes the towns in the midst of their sins: His punishing grip is terrible and severe. 103 In that is a sign for him who fears the punishment of the Hereafter. That is a Day for which mankind shall be gathered together, a Day when all will be present. 104 We will only postpone it until a predetermined time, 105 and when that Day arrives, no soul shall speak but by His leave. Among those some shall be damned, and others shall be blessed.

106 The wretched ones will be in the Fire sighing and groaning, 107 remaining in it timelessly, for ever, as long as the heavens and earth endure, except as your Lord wills. Your Lord carries out whatever He wills. 108 Those who are blessed shall abide in the Garden; they will dwell therein as long as the heavens and the earth endure, except as your Lord wills. Such bounty shall be unending. 109 Have no doubt as to what they worship. They worship nothing but what their fathers worshipped before [them]. We shall certainly give them their share in full, without diminishing anything.

110 We certainly gave the Book to Moses, but differences arose about it: had it not been that a word had gone forth before from your Lord, Judgement would indeed have been passed on them then and there: yet they are in

grave doubt about it. 111 Your
Lord will reward each one of
them in full for their deeds. He is
well-aware of all their actions.

112 Therefore stand firm [in
the straight path] as you are
commanded, along with those
who have turned to God with
you, and do not exceed the
bounds, for He sees everything
you do. 113 Do not incline toward
those who do wrong, lest the
Fire touch you. For [then] you
would have none to protect you
from God, and you will not be
helped. 114 Say your prayers
morning and evening, and during
parts of the night; surely good
makes amends for evil. This is a
reminder for people who pay
heed. 115 Be steadfast; for surely,
God does not let the wages of the
righteous be wasted.

116 Why, then, were there not
among the generations before
you upright men who would
speak out against the [spread of]
corruption on earth—except for
the few whom We saved? But
the wrongdoers pursued their
worldly pleasures and thus
became guilty. 117 Your Lord
would never unjustly destroy
communities while their people
were trying to reform.

118 If your Lord had wished,
He would have made mankind
into one community. As it is,
they will not cease to dispute,—
119 and to this end He has created
them [all], except for those to
whom your Lord has shown
mercy. The word of your Lord
shall be fulfilled, 'I will fill Hell
with jinn and men all together.'

120 We have told you the stories
of the prophets to make your
heart firm and in these accounts
truth has come to you, with an
exhortation and a reminder for
the believers. 121 Say to those
who do not believe, you do things
in your way and we are doing
things in our way, 122 and wait,
we too are waiting.' 123 The
knowledge of the secret of the
heavens and the earth belongs to
God alone, and to Him shall all
affairs be referred. So worship
Him and put your trust in Him
alone. Your Lord is not unaware
of what you do.

12. JOSEPH

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Alif Lam Ra*

These are verses from the clear
Book. 2 We have sent down the
Quran in Arabic, so that you may
understand. 3 We recount to you
the best of narratives in revealing
this Quran to you, even though
you were unaware of it before it
came.

4 When Joseph told his father,
'My father, I saw eleven stars,
and the sun and moon: I saw
them prostrate themselves before
me,' 5 he replied, 'My son, do
not relate your dream to your
brothers, lest they plot evil
against you—Satan is the sworn
enemy of man. 6 You shall be
chosen by your Lord and He
will impart to you some
understanding of the inner
meaning of events. He will
bestow the full measure of His
blessings upon you and upon the
House of Jacob—even as He
formerly bestowed it in full
measure upon your forefathers,
Abraham and Isaac. Truly, your
Sustainer is all-knowing and wise!'

7 Surely, in Joseph and his
brothers there are signs for the
inquirers. 8 They said [to each
other], 'Surely Joseph and his
brother [Benjamin] are dearer to
our father than ourselves,
although we are a band. Truly,
our father is clearly mistaken.
9 Therefore, let us put Joseph to
death or cast him away to some
[far-off] land, so that our father's
attention should turn only to us,
and you can thereafter become a
righteous people.' 10 One of them
said, 'Do not kill Joseph, but if
you must do something, cast him
into the bottom of a well; some
of the travellers will pick him up.'

11 They said to their father,
'Why do you not trust us with
Joseph? We are indeed his well-
wishers. 12 Send him with us
tomorrow, so that he may play
and enjoy himself. We will look

after him.’ 13 [Jacob] said, ‘It
would indeed grieve me if you
took him away with you, and I
fear lest the wolf should devour
him while you are off your guard.’
14 They said, ‘Surely, if the wolf
devoured him while we were a
strong party, we should indeed
be great losers.’

15 And so, when they went
away with him, they decided to
cast him into the dark depths of
a well. Then We revealed to him
Our will, ‘You shall [one day]
tell them of this deed of theirs,
when they do not realize who
you are.’ 16 And at nightfall they
came to their father, weeping.
17 They said, ‘Father, we went
off racing and left Joseph with
our belongings, and the wolf
devoured him. But you will not
believe us, even though we are
telling the truth.’ 18 And they
showed him their brother’s shirt,
stained with false blood. ‘No!’
he cried. ‘Your souls have tempted
you to do something evil! But it is
best to be patient: God alone
can help me bear the loss you
speak of.’

19 And there came a caravan of
travellers and they sent their
water-drawer to draw water from
the well. He let down his bucket
into the well and he exclaimed,
‘Oh, what a lucky find, here is a
boy!’ They hid him like a piece
of merchandise, but God knew
well what they did. 20 Later they
sold him for a paltry sum, a few
pieces of silver [*dirhams*]: So
little did they value him.

21 The Egyptian who bought
him said to his wife, ‘Lodge him
honourably, he may prove of
benefit to us, or we may even
adopt him as our son.’ Thus We
established Joseph in the land,
so that We might teach him the
true meaning of events. God has
power over all things. However,
most people do not know this.
22 And when he reached maturity,
We bestowed on him right
judgement and knowledge. Thus
We reward those who do good.

23 However, the woman in
whose house he lived, wanted to
seduce him. One day she bolted
the doors and said, ‘Come!’ He
replied, ‘God forbid! Truly [your

husband] is my master and has treated me honourably. Wrongdoers certainly never prosper.' [24] She started towards him, and he would have succumbed to her, if he had not seen a sign from his Lord—We did this in order to keep evil and indecency away from him, for he was truly one of Our chosen servants.

[25] They both ran to the door and, in the struggle, she tore his shirt at the back. They found her husband at the door. She cried, 'Shall not the man who wished to violate your wife be thrown into prison or sternly punished?' [26] Joseph said, 'It was she who sought to seduce me.' One of her household testified, 'If his shirt is torn at the front then she is speaking the truth, and he is lying. [27] But if it is torn from behind then she is lying, and he speaks the truth.' [28] So when he saw his shirt torn from behind [her husband] said, 'This is the guile of you women. Your guile is great indeed. [29] Joseph, overlook this: but you [wife], ask forgiveness for your sin, for you have done wrong.'

[30] Women in the town began to gossip, 'The nobleman's wife is trying to seduce her slave! Love for him consumes her heart! Indeed! We see her in manifest error.' [31] When she heard of their intrigues, she sent for them and prepared a party for them. She gave a knife to each of them [to cut fruits, etc.] and then asked Joseph to appear before them. When the women saw him, they were greatly amazed [at his beauty], and they cut their hands, exclaiming, 'God preserve us! This is no human being but a noble angel!' [32] She said, 'This is he about whom you have been blaming me! And, indeed, I did try to make him yield to me, but he was unyielding. Now, however, if he does not do as I bid him, he shall certainly be put in prison and be humiliated.' [33] Joseph said, 'O my Lord! I would prefer prison to what these women are inviting me to do. And if You do not avert their guile from me, I may yield to

them and so become one of the
ignorant.’ 34 So his Lord
answered him and warded off
their guile. He is All Hearing and
All Knowing.

35 Yet, even after all the
evidence they had seen, they
thought it right to jail him for a
time. 36 Two young men entered
the prison along with him. One
of them said, ‘I saw myself [in a
dream] I was pressing wine.’
The other said, ‘I dreamed I was
carrying bread on my head from
which the birds were eating. Tell
us their meaning; for we see that
you are one who does good
[to all].’

37 Joseph said to them, ‘I shall
inform you of the interpretation
of your dreams before your meal
is brought to you. This is a part
of the knowledge that my Lord
has taught me. I have renounced
the religion of the people who do
not believe in God and who deny
the Hereafter. 38 I follow the
religion of my fathers, Abraham,
Isaac and Jacob; and it is not for
us to associate anyone with God
as a partner. This is of God’s
grace upon us and upon mankind;
even though most men are not
grateful. 39 O my two fellow-
prisoners! Are many diverse lords
better, or God, the One, the
Almighty? 40 All those you
worship instead of Him are mere
names you and your forefathers
have invented, names for which
God has sent down no authority:
all power belongs to God alone,
and He orders you to worship
none but Him: this is the true
faith, though most people do not
realize it.

41 O my two fellow-prisoners,
one of you will serve wine to his
lord, the other of you will be
crucified and birds will feed off
his head. The matter about which
you have been seeking my
opinion has been so decreed.’
42 He said to the one he thought
would be saved, ‘Mention me to
your master.’ However Satan
made him forget to mention it to
his master, and so Joseph
remained in prison for a number
of years.

43 The king said, ‘I saw [in a
dream] seven fat cows which

seven lean ones were eating, also seven green ears of corn and seven others which were dry. Tell me the meaning of this vision, my nobles, if you can interpret visions.' 44 They said, 'These are confusing dreams and we do not know the interpretation of such dreams.' 45 Then one of the two men who had been released and who, after a long time, remembered, said, 'I shall tell you its interpretation; therefore, give me leave to go [to Joseph in prison].'

46 'O truthful Joseph!' he said, 'Tell us the meaning of a dream in which seven fat cows are being eaten by seven lean ones, and there are seven green ears of corn and seven others which are dry, so that I may return to my people and inform them.' 47 Joseph said, 'You shall sow for seven consecutive years as usual, but leave in the ear the harvest that you reap, except for a little which you may eat. 48 Then there will follow seven years of great hardship which will consume all but a little of what you stored. 49 Then a year will come after that when people will have abundant rain and when once more they will press [wine and oil].'

50 The king said, 'Bring him to me.' When the king's messenger came to Joseph, he said, 'Go back to your master and ask him about the women who cut their hands: my Lord knows well their guile.' 51 The king asked the women, 'What was the truth of the affair in which you tried to seduce Joseph?' The women said, 'God forbid! We know no evil of him.' The wife of the nobleman said, 'The truth has now come to light. It was I who tried to seduce him; he is surely an honest man.'

52 'From this,' said Joseph, '[The nobleman] should know that I did not betray him in his absence, and that God does not guide the plotting of the treacherous. 53 I am not trying to absolve myself: for man's very soul incites him to evil unless my Lord bestows His mercy. Indeed, my Lord is forgiving and merciful.'

54 The king said, ‘Bring him to me. I will take him for my special service.’ And when he had spoken to him, he said, ‘From now on you will dwell with us, honoured and trusted.’ 55 Joseph said, ‘Place in my charge the storehouses of the land; for I am a good and knowledgeable custodian.’ 56 Thus We caused Joseph to be established in a position of authority in the land. He could dwell therein wherever he pleased. We bestow Our mercy on whomever We please, and We do not allow the reward of the righteous to go to waste. 57 Yet the reward of the hereafter is best for those who believe and are mindful of God.

58 Joseph’s brothers arrived and presented themselves before him. He recognized them, but they did not know him. 59 When he had made provision for them, he told them, ‘Bring me your brother on your father’s side. Do you not see that I give you full measure and that I am the best of hosts? 60 But if you do not bring him to me, you shall have no grain from me, nor shall you ever approach me again.’ 61 They replied, ‘We shall try to persuade his father to send him with us. We shall do [our utmost]!’

62 Joseph said to his servants, ‘Put their money back into their saddlebags, so that they will recognize it when they return home to their family; thus they may come back.’ 63 When they returned to their father, they said, ‘Our father, any [further] measure of grain has been denied us, so send our brother [Benjamin] along with us, so that we may obtain our measure [of grain]; and, we shall guard him well.’ 64 He replied, ‘Am I to trust you with him as I once trusted you with his brother? But God is the best of guardians, the Most Merciful of all.’

65 When they opened their packs, they discovered that their money had been returned to them. They said, ‘Our father, what more do we desire than this? This money of ours has been returned to us, so we shall [again] buy food for our family and we shall

guard our brother, and we shall obtain an additional camel-load of grain. This [that we bring now] is a small quantity.' [66] He [Jacob] said, 'I will never send him with you until you give me a solemn pledge, before God, that you will indeed bring him back to me, unless you yourselves are trapped [in a compulsive situation].' And when they had given him their solemn pledge, [Jacob] said, 'God shall be witness to all that we say.'

[67] 'O my sons! Do not all of you enter [the city] by one gate; enter by separate gates. I cannot help you in any way against God; judgement is His alone. In Him I have put my trust. In Him let the faithful put their trust.' [68] They entered [safely] as their father had told them. However, he had no power to guard them against God's decree. It was only a wish in Jacob's soul which he had thus fulfilled. He was possessed of knowledge which We had given him. But most people have no knowledge.

[69] When they presented themselves before Joseph, he took his brother [Benjamin] aside. He said, 'I am your brother, so do not feel distressed about whatever they have been doing.' [70] And when he had given them their provisions, he placed a drinking-cup in his brother's pack. Then a crier called out after them, 'Men of the caravan! You have committed theft!' [71] They said, turning towards him, 'What is it that you have lost?' [72] 'We miss the royal measuring bowl,' he replied. 'He who brings it shall have a camel-load of corn. I pledge my word for it.' [73] They said, 'By God, you [ought to] know we have not come here to cause any trouble in the land. We are not thieves!' [74] The Egyptians asked them, 'And if we find that you are lying, what penalty shall we mete out to you?' [75] They replied, 'The penalty should be that he in whose saddlebag it is found, should be held [as bondman] to atone for the crime. That is how we punish the wrongdoers.' [76] He [the herald] searched their bags before his brother's and then

took out the cup from his brother's bag. In this way, We devised a plan on behalf of Joseph. He could not have detained his brother under the King's law, unless God so willed. We exalt whoever We please: but above those who have knowledge there is One all knowing.

77 They said, 'If he is a thief, a brother of his had [also] committed theft before him.' But Joseph kept his secret and revealed nothing to them. He said [to himself], 'Your deed was worse. God best knows the things you speak of.' 78 They said, 'O exalted one, he has a very aged father, take one of us in his place. We can see that you are a very good man.' 79 He replied, 'God forbid that we should take anyone other than the person on whom we found our property. In that case, we would clearly be wrongdoers.'

80 When they had lost all hope of [persuading] him, they withdrew, conferring among themselves. The eldest said, 'Do you not know that your father took from you a pledge in God's name. You have already failed with regard to Joseph, so I shall never leave the land until my father permits me to, or God decides [things] for me. He is the best judge! 81 Return to your father and say, "Father, your son has committed a theft. We testify only to what we know. How could we guard against the unforeseen? 82 Inquire of [the people of] the city where we lodged, and of the caravan with which we travelled. We are telling you the truth."'

83 Jacob said, 'No, but you have yourselves contrived a story. But it is best to be patient. God may well bring them all back to me [in the end]. For He is indeed full of knowledge and wisdom.' 84 And he turned away from them, crying, 'Alas for Joseph!' His eyes went white with grief, and he was filled with sorrow. 85 They said, 'By God, will you keep on remembering Joseph until your health is ruined, and you die?' 86 He said 'I only complain of my anguish and my

sorrow to God. God has made known to me things that you do not know. [87] Go, my sons, and seek news of Joseph and his brother. Do not despair of God's mercy; none but those who deny the truth despair of God's mercy.'

[88] When his brothers presented themselves before Joseph, they pleaded, 'Exalted one, distress has afflicted us and our family and we have brought only a paltry sum; but give us full measure. Be charitable to us. Truly, God rewards the charitable.' [89] He said, 'Are you aware of what you did to Joseph and his brother in ignorance?' [90] They exclaimed, 'Are you indeed Joseph?' He replied, 'I am Joseph and this is my brother. God has indeed been gracious to us. The truth is that God does not waste the reward of those who do good, who are righteous and steadfast.'

[91] [The brothers] said, 'By God! Most certainly God has raised you high above us, and we have indeed been guilty!' [92] He said, 'No blame [shall fall] on you this day; may God forgive you! And He is the Most Merciful of those who show mercy. [93] Go with this shirt of mine and cast it upon my father's face. He will recover his sight; thereupon come [back] to me with all your family.'

[94] When the caravan set out from Egypt, their father [in Canaan] said, 'You may think I am senile, but I certainly perceive the breath of Joseph.' [95] They said, 'By God, you still persist in your illusions!' [96] But when the bearer of the good news arrived and cast the shirt on Jacob's face, his eyesight returned and he said, 'Did I not tell you that I know from God what you do not know?' [97] They said, 'O our father! Ask forgiveness for our sins—we were truly in the wrong.' [98] He said, 'I shall certainly ask my Lord to forgive you. Surely, He is the Most Forgiving and Merciful.'

[99] Then, when they presented themselves before Joseph, he drew his parents to him and said, 'Welcome to Egypt, in safety, if God wills!' [100] He helped his

parents to a couch and they all
fell down on their knees before
him. He said, ‘My father, this is
the interpretation of my dream.
My Lord has made it come true!
He was kind to me when He let
me out of prison and brought
you from the desert after Satan
had brought about discord
between me and my brethren.
My Lord is the best planner in
achieving what He will; He is
All Knowing, and Truly Wise.’
101 Then Joseph prayed, ‘My
Lord, You have given me power
and taught me the interpretation
of dreams. Creator of the heavens
and the earth, You are my patron
in this world and the Hereafter!
Make me die in submission to
You and admit me among the
righteous.’
102 These are tidings of the
unseen that We reveal to you, [O
Prophet], though you were not
present with them when they
plotted and agreed upon a plan.
103 Yet most men will not become
believers, no matter how eager
you may be. 104 You shall not
ask them for any reward for
this. It is but a reminder for all
mankind.
105 And there are many signs
in the heavens and the earth that
they pass by and give no heed
to—106 and most of them, even
when they profess belief in God,
attribute partners to Him. 107 Do
they feel secure that the all-
encompassing punishment of
God will not come upon them, or
that the Last Hour will not come
upon them suddenly when they
least expect it? 108 Say, ‘This is
my way; on the basis of sure
knowledge, I call on you to have
faith in God, I and those who
follow me. God is Holy; I am not
one of those who associate
partners with God.’
109 All the messengers We sent
before you [Muhammad] were
human beings to whom We made
revelations; they were men
chosen from the people of their
towns. Did they not travel across
the earth and see the end of those
before them? Those who are
mindful of God prefer the life to
come. Will you not then
understand? 110 When the

messengers lost all hopes and
thought that they had been told
lies, Our help came to them: We
saved whoever We pleased, but
Our punishment will not be
averted from the guilty.
111 In their stories there is a
lesson for men of understanding.
This [Quran] is no invented tale,
but a confirmation of the
previous [scripture] and a
detailed explanation of all things
as well as guidance and mercy to
true believers.

13. THUNDER

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Alif Lam Mim Ra*

These are the verses of the Book.
What is sent down to you from
your Lord is the truth, yet most
men do not believe in it. 2 It was
God who raised the heavens
with no visible supports, and
then established Himself on the
throne; He has regulated the sun
and the moon, so that each will
pursue its course for an appointed
time; He ordains all things and
makes plain His revelations, so
that you may be certain of
meeting your Lord; 3 it was He
who spread out the earth and
placed upon it mountains and
rivers, and fruits of every kind in
male and female pairs. He drew
the veil of night over the day. In
all this, truly, there are signs for
people who reflect.
4 On the earth are diverse
tracts, adjoining one another:
vineyards and cornfields and
groves of palm, the single and
the clustered. Their fruits are
nourished by the same water; yet
We make the taste of some excel
that of others. In this also are
signs for people who understand.
5 If anything can astonish you,
you should surely be astonished
at their asking, ‘What? When we
become dust, shall we be created

anew?' These are the ones who deny their Lord: around their necks there shall be fetters. They are the inheritors of the Fire, and shall abide therein forever.

6 They demand that you hasten on the evil rather than the good, although there have been many examples of punishment before them—your Lord is full of forgiveness for mankind, despite their wrongdoings, but He is truly severe in punishment.

7 Those who deny the truth ask, 'Why has no sign been sent down to him by His Lord?' But you are only a warner; every people has its guide.

8 God knows what every female bears. He knows of every change within the womb. For everything He has a proper measure; 9 He is the knower of the unseen and the visible, the Great, the Most-Exalted. 10 It makes no difference whether you converse in secret or aloud, whether you hide under the cloak of night or walk about freely in the light of day.

11 Each has guardian angels before him and behind him, who watch him at God's command. God does not change the condition of a people's lot, unless they change what is in their hearts. But when God decrees punishment for a people, none can ward it off. Besides Him, they have no protector.

12 It is He who shows you the lightning, inspiring fear and hope, and gathers up the heavy clouds; 13 and the thunder glorifies Him with His praise and the angels do so too in awe of Him, and He sends His thunderbolts to strike anyone He pleases, yet they dispute about God, who is inexorable in His power.

14 The only true appeal is to God alone; those they appeal to instead of Him will never respond to them in any way. They are like a man who stretches forth his hands toward the water, so that it may reach his mouth, but it never does. The calls of those who deny the truth are all in vain.

15 All who dwell in heavens

and on the earth submit to God
alone, willingly or unwillingly,
as do their shadows in the
mornings and in the evenings.
[16] Say, ‘Who is Lord of the
heavens and the earth?’ Say,
‘God.’ Say, ‘Why do you take
protectors other than Him, who
can neither benefit nor harm
even themselves?’ Say, ‘Are the
blind and the seeing equal? Is
darkness equal to the light? Or
have they assigned partners to
God who create as He creates, so
that both creations appear to
them alike?’ Say, ‘God is the
Creator of all things. He is the
One, the Almighty.’

[17] He sends down water from
the sky that fills riverbeds to
overflowing, each according to
its measure. The torrent carries
along swelling foam, akin to
what rises from smelted ore from
which man makes ornaments and
tools. God thus depicts truth and
falsehood. The scum is cast away,
but whatever is of use to man
remains behind. God thus speaks
in parables.

[18] There will be the best of
rewards for those who respond
to their Lord: while those who
do not respond to Him—if they
possessed all that is on earth and
twice as much, they would surely
offer it as ransom [on the Day of
Judgement];—will have the
worst reckoning and their goal is
Hell: and how evil a resting-
place!

[19] Can one who knows that
whatever has been sent down to
you from your Lord is the Truth,
be equal to one who is blind? It
is only those who are endowed
with insight who pay heed; [20] they
who are true to their bond with
God and never break their
covenant; [21] and those who join
together what God has
commanded to be joined, and
fear their Lord and dread the
harshness of the reckoning;
[22] those who are steadfast in
seeking the favour of their Lord,
and pray regularly and spend
secretly and openly out of what
We have provided them with,
and ward off evil with good.
Theirs shall be the final abode.
[23] They shall enter the eternal

Gardens of Eden, along with the righteous from among their fathers, wives and descendants. From every gate the angels will come to them, saying, 24 ‘Peace be upon you for all that you have steadfastly endured. How excellent is the final abode!’

25 As for those who break the covenant of God, after having confirmed it, who cut asunder what God has commanded to be joined and spread corruption in the land, a curse shall be laid on them; they shall have an evil abode. 26 God gives abundantly to whom He will and sparingly to whom He pleases—[those who deny the truth] rejoice in the life of this world; yet the life of this world is but a fleeting pleasure compared with the life to come.

27 Those who deny the truth ask, ‘Why has no Sign been sent down to him by his Lord?’ Say, ‘God lets go astray those whom He wills and guides to Himself those who turn to Him, 28 those who believe and whose hearts find comfort in the remembrance of God—surely in the remembrance of God hearts can find comfort. 29 ‘As for those who believe and do righteous deeds—blissful is their end.’

30 Thus We have sent you to a people, before whom other peoples have passed away, so that you may recite to them what We have revealed to you. Yet they deny the Gracious God. Say, ‘He is my Lord; there is no god but He. In Him I put my trust and to Him I shall return.’

31 Even if there were a Quran by which mountains could be set in motion, by which the earth could be rent asunder, or by which the dead could be made to speak [they would not believe in it]. Surely all things are subject to God’s will. Are the faithful unaware that, had He pleased, God could have guided all mankind? Calamity shall not cease to strike those who deny the truth because of their misdeeds or to strike near their homes, until God’s promise be fulfilled. God will not fail to keep His promise. 32 Other messengers were also mocked

before you; but though I granted
respite to those who denied the
truth, at last I seized them, and
how awful was My punishment.

33 Is then He who watches
over every soul and its actions
[like any other]? Yet they ascribe
partners to God. Say, 'Name
them! Or do you presume to
inform Him of something on the
earth of which He does not
know? Or, is all this only your
verbal assertion?' Indeed, their
devices seem fair to those who
deny the truth, and they are kept
back from the right path. There
can be no guide for those whom
God lets go astray. 34 Punishment
awaits them in the present life:
but harsher is the punishment of
the Hereafter—no one will
defend them against God.

35 Such is the Paradise which
the righteous have been
promised: it is watered by
running streams: eternal is its
fruit, and eternal is its shade.
That is the recompense of those
who are righteous, but the
recompense of those who deny
the truth is the Fire.

36 Those to whom We sent the
Scriptures rejoice in what has
been revealed to you, while some
factions deny parts of it. Say to
them, 'I have been commanded
only to worship God and not to
associate partners with Him: to
Him I pray and to Him I shall
return.' 37 Thus We have revealed
it as a [clear] commandment in
Arabic. If you followed their
desires after all the knowledge
which has come to you, you
would have no protector or shield
against God. 38 We sent down
messengers before you and gave
them wives and children. Yet it
was not possible for a messenger
to bring a sign, save by the
command of God. Every age has
had its revelation. 39 God
abrogates or confirms what He
pleases; with Him is the source
of all commandments.

40 Whether We show you part
of what We have promised them
or cause you to pass away [before
that], your mission is only to
give warning; it is for Us to do
the reckoning. 41 Do they not see
how We come to [their] land and

shrink its borders? God decides—no one can reverse His decision—and He is swift in reckoning. 42 Those before them did also devise plots; but in all things the master planning is God's. He knows what each soul does. Those who deny the truth shall soon know for whom is the final abode.

43 Those who deny the truth say, 'You are not God's messenger.' Say, 'Sufficient is God as my witness between me and you, and those who have knowledge of the Book.'

14. ABRAHAM

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Alif Lam Ra*

We have revealed to you this Book so that, by their Lord's command, you may lead men from darkness to the light: to the path of the Mighty, the Praiseworthy One, 2 to God, who possesses whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on earth. Woe to those who deny the truth, for they shall be sternly punished! 3 Woe to those who love this life more than the Hereafter; who turn others away from the path of God and seek to make it crooked. They have gone far astray.

4 Each messenger We have sent has spoken in the language of his own people, so that he might make the message clear to them. But God lets go astray whom He will and guides whom He pleases. He is the Almighty, the All Wise.

5 We sent Moses with Our signs, saying, 'Lead your people out of the darkness into the light, and remind them of God's Days. In that there are signs for every patient, grateful person.'

6 Moses said to his people, 'Remember God's goodness to you when He delivered you from

Pharaoh's people who were
treating you cruelly, putting your
sons to death and sparing only
your daughters. Surely that was
a great trial from your Lord.
7 Remember also the time when
your Lord declared, "If you are
grateful, I will surely bestow
more favours on you; but if you
are ungrateful, then know that
My punishment is severe
indeed."' 8 Moses said, 'Even if
you should deny the truth,
and all who dwell on earth
together, God is self-sufficient,
praiseworthy.'

9 Has not news come to you
concerning those who preceded
you, such as Noah's people, and
the 'Ad and Thamud, as well as
those who came after them? Only
God knows who they were. The
messengers came to them with
clear signs, but they put their
hands to their mouths saying,
'We deny the message you have
been sent with. We have grave
doubts about what you are
inviting us to do.'

10 Their messengers said, 'Is
there any doubt about God, the
Originator of the heavens and
earth? He calls you to Him in
order to forgive you some of
your offences and to reprieve
you for a specific period.' They
said, 'You are only human beings
like ourselves! You want to divert
us from what our forefathers
have been worshipping, so bring
us some clear authority.'

11 Their messengers replied,
'We are indeed mortals like
yourselves. But God bestows His
grace on such of His servants as
He chooses. We cannot give you
miracles, except by God's leave.
In God let true believers put
their trust—12 and why should
we not put our trust in God when
He has already guided us to our
paths? We will, surely, bear with
patience all the harm you do us.
So in God let those who trust put
their trust.'

13 Those who deny the truth
said to their messengers, 'We
shall banish you from our land
unless you return to our ways.'
But their Lord inspired the
messengers, saying, 'We shall
destroy the evil-doers, 14 and

settle you on the land to succeed
them. That is [in store] for anyone
who is in awe of meeting Me,
and who heeds My warnings.'
15 When they sought Our
Judgement, every stubborn
oppressor was frustrated.
16 Beyond him is Hell, and he
shall drink putrid water; 17 he
will sip and will not find it easy
to swallow it. Death will
approach him from every quarter,
yet he will not die. More intense
suffering will lie ahead of him.
18 The works of those who
deny their Lord are like ashes
which the wind scatters on a
stormy day: they shall gain
nothing from what they do. To
act thus is to stray far into error.
19 Do you not see that God has
created the heavens and the earth
for a purpose? He can eliminate
you if He wills and bring into
being a new creation: 20 that is
no difficult thing for God.
21 They shall all appear before
God and the weak will say to
those who behaved proudly, 'We
were your followers. Can you
protect us from God's
punishment?' They will reply,
'Had God given us guidance, we
would have guided you. It is all
the same whether we are patient
or impatient; there is no escape
for us.'
22 When the Judgement has
been passed, Satan will say to
them, 'God made you a true
promise; I too made you
promises, but I failed you. I had
no authority over you, except
that I called you and you
responded to me. Do not now
blame me, but blame yourselves!
I cannot help you, nor can you
help me. I reject your former act
in associating me with God.'
The wrongdoers will have a
painful punishment.
23 But those who believed and
did good deeds will be brought
into Gardens with rivers flowing
through them. They shall abide
there forever by their Lord's
permission, and will be welcomed
with the greeting, 'Peace'!
24 Do you not see how God
compares a good word to a good
tree? Its root is firm and its
branches are in the sky, 25 it

yields its fruit each season with its Lord's permission—God makes such comparisons for people, in order that they may take heed—26 but an evil word is like an evil tree torn out of the earth; it has no foothold.

27 God will strengthen the believers with His steadfast word, both in the present life and in the Hereafter. God lets the wrongdoers go astray. He does what He wills.

28 Do you not see those who, in exchange for God's favour, offer only ingratitude and cause their people to descend into the Abode of Ruin? 29 In Hell shall they burn; an evil place to stay. 30 They have set up rivals to God to lead people away from His path. Say, 'Enjoy yourselves awhile: you will then proceed to the Fire.'

31 Tell My servants, those who are true believers, to keep up prayer and to give alms secretly and openly out of what We have given them, before the Day comes when there will be neither trading nor befriending.

32 It was God who created the heavens and the earth. He sends down water from the sky with which He brings forth fruits for your sustenance; He has made ships subservient to you, so that they may sail across the sea by His command; and has subjected the rivers to you. 33 He has also subjected to you the sun and the moon, both steadfastly pursuing their courses. He has subjected to you the night as well as the day; 34 He has given you all that you asked of Him; and if you try to reckon up God's favours, you will not be able to count them. Truly man is very unjust, very ungrateful.

35 [Remember] when Abraham said, 'My Lord, make this a city of peace and help me and my children to keep away from worshipping idols. 36 My Lord, they have led so many men astray! Anyone who follows me is with me, but if anyone turns against me, You are surely forgiving and merciful.

37 O Lord! I have settled some of my offspring in an

uncultivable valley near Your
Sacred House, Lord, so that they
may say their prayers regularly.
So, make people's hearts incline
towards them and provide them
with fruits so that they may be
grateful.

[38] Lord, You have knowledge
of all that we hide and all that we
reveal: nothing in heaven or on
earth is hidden from God.
[39] Praise be to God who has
bestowed upon me, despite my
old age, Ishmael and Isaac. Surely
my Lord is the hearer of prayer.
[40] Lord, grant that I may keep up
the prayer, and so may my
offspring. My Lord, accept my
prayer. [41] Forgive me, Lord, and
forgive my parents and all the
believers on the Day of
Reckoning.'

[42] Do not think God is unaware
of the wrongdoers' actions. He
only gives them respite till the
Day on which all eyes will stare
fixedly in horror. [43] They will
hurry on in fright, their heads
lifted up, their gaze directed
forward, their minds utterly void.

[44] Warn men of the Day when
the punishment will come upon
them, and when the wrongdoers
will say, 'Our Lord, grant us
respite for a short while. We will
respond to Your call and will
follow the messengers.' [But God
will answer], are you not those
who swore that you would never
suffer any decline? [45] You lived
in the dwellings of those who
wronged themselves, and it was
made clear to you how We had
dealt with them and We gave you
many examples. [46] They hatched
their plots; but these plots were
all within God's knowledge.
Though their plots were such
as to shake the mountains,
God will bring their plots
to nothing.

[47] Never think that God will
fail in His promise to His
messengers. God is mighty and
capable of retribution. [48] On the
Day when the earth shall be
changed into another earth, as
shall be the heavens, they will all
appear before God, the One, the
Most Supreme. [49] On that Day
you shall see the guilty bound in
chains, [50] their garments shall be

of pitch and the fire shall envelop their faces. 51 God will requite each soul according to its deeds. Swift is God's reckoning. 52 This is a message for mankind. Let them take warning from it and know that He is but one God. Let those possessed of understanding may take heed.

15. THE ROCKY TRACT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Alif Lam Ra*

These are the verses of a clear Book, the Quran. 2 A time will surely come when those who are bent on denying the truth will wish that they had surrendered themselves to God, 3 so leave them to eat and enjoy themselves and let them be beguiled by vain hopes; for soon they will realise [the truth]. 4 We have never destroyed a township without a definite decree having been issued; 5 no people can forestall their doom, nor can they delay it.

6 They say, 'You to whom the Reminder [the Quran] has been sent down, you are surely possessed. 7 Why do you not bring down the angels upon us, if you are truthful?' 8 But We send down the angels only to bring justice and then they will not be reprieved.

9 It is We who have sent down the Reminder and We will, most surely, safeguard it.

10 We sent messengers before you to the previous peoples, 11 but there was never a messenger who came to them but they mocked him: 12 thus We cause this [habit of mocking] to enter into the hearts of the sinful. 13 They will not believe in it, though they have before them the example of former peoples, 14 and even if We opened to them a door from heaven, and they began ascending through it, 15 they would still say, 'Our eyes

have been dazzled. We are
bewitched.'

16 We have placed
constellations in heaven and have
beautified it for beholders, 17 and
We have guarded it from every
accursed devil: 18 but if anyone
eavesdrops, he is pursued by a
bright flaming fire.

19 We have spread out the earth,
and set upon it firm mountains
and caused everything to grow
in due proportion. 20 We have
provided therein a means of
livelihood for you and for all
those creatures for whom you do
not provide.

21 There is not a thing but its
storehouses are with Us. But We
only send down each thing in an
appropriate measure: 22 We let
loose fertilizing winds, and bring
water from the sky for you to
drink; and you could not have
stored it up for yourselves.

23 Truly, it is We who bring to
life and We who cause death and
We are the inheritor of all things.
24 We know those who lived
before you and those who will
come after you. 25 It is your Lord
who will gather them. He is all
wise and all knowing.

26 We created man out of dry
clay, from moulded mud, 27 and
the jinn We had created before
from flaming fire.

28 Your Lord said to the angels,
'I am about to bring into being a
man wrought from mud. 29 When
I have formed him and breathed
My spirit into him, fall down in
prostration before him,' 30 then
the angels all prostrated
themselves together. 31 But Satan
did not; he refused to join those
who prostrated themselves.
32 God asked him, 'What is the
matter with you, that you are not
among those who have prostrated
themselves?' 33 He replied, 'I am
not one to prostrate myself to a
man whom You have created out
of a clay of moulded mud.'

34 God said, 'Then get out of
here; for you are accursed, 35 and
the curse shall be on you till the
Day of Judgement!' 36 Satan said,
'O my Lord! Grant me respite till
the Day of Resurrection.' 37 He
said, 'You are granted respite
38 till that Appointed Day.'

39 He said, ‘My Lord, since
You have let me go astray. I shall
make the path of error seem
alluring to them on the earth and
shall mislead them all, 40 except
for Your chosen servants.’

41 God said, ‘This is the path
which leads straight to Me.
42 Surely, you shall have no power
over My true servants, except
those misguided ones who
choose to follow you. 43 Surely,
Hell is the place to which they
are destined, 44 it has seven gates:
and each gate has a portion of
them allotted to it.

45 Truly, the God-fearing shall
dwell amid gardens and
fountains—46 “Enter therein in
peace and security!”—47 We
shall cleanse their hearts of all
traces of ill-will; they will be
like brethren seated on couches
facing one another. 48 They will
not be affected by any weariness
there, and they will never be
made to leave.’ 49 Tell My
servants that I alone am the
Forgiving, the Merciful One,
50 and that My punishment is a
painful punishment.

51 Tell them about Abraham’s
guests: 52 when they came to him
they greeted him with: ‘Peace.’
He said,‘We feel afraid of you.’
53 They said, ‘Do not be afraid.
We come to you with good news.
You shall have a son who shall
be endowed with great
knowledge.’ 54 He said, ‘Do you
bring me such news despite my
old age? What kind of good
news are you bringing me?’
55 They said, ‘We have, indeed,
given you glad tidings in truth;
do not therefore despair.’ 56 He
said, ‘Who but the misguided
despair of the mercy of
their Lord?’

57 Then he asked, ‘What then
is your business, O messengers?’
58 They said, ‘We have been sent
forth to a guilty people.’ 59 Except
for Lot’s household, all of whom
we shall rescue, 60 except his
wife. We have decreed that she
will be among those who remain
behind [and will be lost].

61 When the messengers came
to Lot and his family, 62 he said,
‘You are strangers [to me].’
63 They said, ‘No, but we bring

you news about what they
disputed, 64 and we have come to
you with the truth, and surely we
are truthful, 65 so leave with your
family some time in the latter
part of the night, and walk behind
them. Let none of you look back.
Go where you are commanded.'
66 We communicated to him Our
decree that the guilty ones would
be destroyed by the morning.

67 The people of the town came
along, revelling, 68 and he told
them, 'These are my guests, so
do not disgrace me. 69 Fear God
and do not shame me.' 70 They
said, 'Did we not forbid you to
extend hospitality to strangers?'
71 He said, 'Here are my
daughters, if you must act in
this way.'

72 By your life, they wandered
on in their wild intoxication
73 and thereupon the blast [of
Our punishment] overtook them
at sunrise. 74 We turned the town
upside down and rained upon
them stones of clay. 75 There are
certainly signs in that for those
who can learn a lesson—76 it is
still there on the highway—
77 surely in this there is a sign for
those who believe.

78 The people of the Wood
were also surely wrongdoers.
79 So We took vengeance on
them. Both are still there on the
highway, plain for all to see.
80 The people of al-Hijr also
rejected Our messengers: 81 We
gave them Our signs, but they
turned away from them. 82 They
carved out dwellings in the
mountains, and lived in
security—83 the blast overtook
them early one morning. 84 All
that they had acquired was of no
avail to them.

85 We have created the heavens
and the earth and all that is
between the two in accordance
with the requirements of truth
and wisdom. The Hour is surely
coming. So overlook [their
faults] with gracious forgiveness.
86 Surely your Lord is the All
Knowing Creator!

87 We have given you the seven
oft-recited verses and the great
Quran. 88 Do not strain your eyes
towards the worldly benefits We
have bestowed on some of them,

nor grieve on their account. Lower your wing of mercy for the believers [89] and say, 'I am, indeed, a plain warner,' [90] such as We send down for those who are divisive, [91] and who have broken the Scripture into fragments—[92] by your Lord, We shall question them all [93] about whatever they had been doing!

[94] Proclaim openly what you are commanded, and avoid the polytheists. [95] We will, surely, suffice you against those who mock, [96] who set up another god with God, but they shall soon learn. [97] We do indeed know how your heart is distressed at what they say. [98] But glorify your Lord with His praise, and prostrate yourself: [99] and worship your Lord until what is certain [death] comes to you.

16. BEES

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] The decree of God is at hand, so do not seek to hasten it. Holy is He, and exalted far above what they associate with Him. [2] He sends down the angels with revelations by His command to whoever of His servants He pleases, saying, 'Warn mankind that there is no god save Me, so fear Me.' [3] He created the heavens and the earth for a true purpose. He is exalted above anything they associate with Him.

[4] He created man out of a [mere] drop of sperm: yet he shows himself to be openly contentious! [5] He has created cattle for you: from them you derive food and clothing and numerous other benefits; [6] how pleasant they look when you bring them home in the evenings and when you take them out to pasture in the mornings. [7] They carry your loads to places which you could otherwise not reach without great hardship—surely, your Lord is compassionate and

merciful—8 He has created horses, mules and donkeys, so that you may ride them, and also so that they may be put on show, and He creates other things beyond your knowledge.

9 The straight way leads to God and there are ways which deviate from the right course. If He so wished, He would guide you all.

10 It is He who sends down water from the sky. From it you drink and with it trees grow on which you pasture your cattle. 11 And with it He grows for you corn, and the olive and the date-palm and the grape, and all kinds of fruits. Surely, in that is a sign for a people who reflect.

12 He has made the night and the day and the sun and the moon subservient to you; and all the stars are subservient to His command. Surely in this there are signs for men of understanding. 13 On the earth He has fashioned for you objects of various hues: there is certainly a sign in that for people who pay heed.

14 It is He who subjected to you the sea, so that you may eat its fresh seafood and bring forth from it ornaments to wear. You see the ships cleaving through it. All this, so that you may seek His bounty and feel grateful.

15 He has set up on the earth firm mountains, lest it shake under you, and rivers and tracks, so that you may find your way, 16 and He has set up other landmarks. By these and by the stars people set their course.

17 Is He, then, who creates like him who does not create? Will you not, then, take heed? 18 If you tried to count God's blessings, you would never be able to number them. God is ever forgiving and most merciful. 19 God knows all that you conceal and all that you reveal.

20 Those you call on besides God cannot create anything. They are themselves created. 21 They are dead, not living; nor do they know when they will be raised to life. 22 Your God is the One God. As for those who do not believe in the Hereafter, their hearts refuse to admit the truth and they

are arrogant. 23 God surely knows what they conceal and what they reveal. He does not love the arrogant.

24 When they are asked, ‘What is it that your Lord has sent down?’ they say, ‘Stories of the ancients.’ 25 Let them bear all their own burdens on Resurrection Day as well as some of the burdens of those whom they lead astray without any knowledge. How evil the load with which they shall be burdened!

26 Those who went before them also plotted. But God struck at the foundations of their building, and the roof fell down upon them from above. The punishment came upon them from where they did not expect. 27 Then on the Day of Resurrection He will disgrace them, and say, ‘Where are My partners for whose sake you opposed [My guidance]?’ Those given knowledge will say, ‘This Day humiliation and affliction will surely befall those who have been denying the truth.’

28 Those whose lives the angels take while they are wronging their own souls will offer submission saying, ‘We were not doing anything evil!’ ‘Indeed!’ the angels will reply, ‘God is aware of what you have been doing, 29 so enter the gates of Hell. There you shall abide forever.’ Evil indeed is the abode of the arrogant.

30 When those who fear God are asked, ‘What has your Lord sent down?’ Their reply is, ‘Goodness!’ The reward of those who do good works in this world is good, but the abode of the Hereafter is even better. The home of the righteous is indeed excellent. 31 They will enter Gardens of Eternity, where rivers will flow at their feet. There they will have all that they wish for. Thus God rewards the righteous, 32 those whose lives the angels take in a state of purity, saying [to them], ‘Peace be on you; enter the Garden, because of [the good] which you did [in the world].’

33 Are they waiting for the

angels to come to them, or the fulfillment of your Lord's will? Those who went before them did the same. God did not wrong them; rather they wronged themselves. 34 The evil results of their deeds overtook them, and that which they used to mock at encompassed them.

35 Those who associate [others with God] say, 'If God had so willed we would not have worshipped anything besides Him, neither we nor our fathers, nor would we have forbidden anything without His sanction.' So did those who went before them. The duty of the messengers is only to convey the message clearly.

36 We raised among every people a messenger who enjoined, 'Worship God alone and shun the evil one.' Then among them were some whom God guided and among them were others who became deserving of ruin. So travel across the earth and observe what was the end of those who rejected the messengers. 37 Though you [Prophet] may be eager to guide them, God does not guide those whom He lets go astray, [because of their refusal to give a positive response to the truth]. They will have no supporters.

38 They swear their strongest oaths by God that God will never raise the dead to life—nonetheless, it is a promise truly binding on Him, even though most people do not realize it—
39 this is so that He may make clear to them what they have differed about and so that those who are bent on denying the truth may realize that they were lying. 40 When We will something to happen, all that We say is, 'Be!' and it is.

41 As for those who, after persecution, migrated from their homes for the cause of God, We will provide them with a goodly abode in this life: but truly the reward of the Hereafter will be greater, if they only knew it.
42 They are the ones who are steadfast and put their trust in their Lord.

43 Before you also the
messengers We sent were but
[mortal] men to whom We
vouchsafed revelation. Ask the
People of the Book, if you do not
know. 44 [We sent them] with
clear signs and scriptures. We
have sent down the Reminder to
you, to enable you to make clear
to mankind what has been sent
down to them, so that they may
reflect upon it.

45 Do those who devise evil
plans feel secure that God will
not make them sink into the
land, or that a punishment will
not come upon them from where
they least expect? 46 Or that He
will not seize them suddenly in
their daily activities and they
will not be able to frustrate Him?
47 Or that He will not punish
them by giving them a fright?
Indeed, your Lord is kind and
merciful.

48 Have they not observed the
things God has created, casting
their shadows right and
left, prostrating themselves
before God in all humility?
49 Everything in the heavens and
all the creatures on the earth
prostrate themselves before God,
as do the angels, and they do not
behave proudly: 50 they fear their
Lord above them, and do what
they are commanded.

51 God says, ‘Do not take two
gods. He is only One God. So
fear Me alone.’ 52 To Him belongs
whatsoever is in the heavens and
on the earth, and obedience is
due to Him alone. Will you then
fear anyone other than God?

53 Whatever blessing you have
is from God, and to Him you
turn for help when distress befalls
you, 54 yet no sooner does He
relieve your distress than some
among you set up other partners
besides their Lord, 55 showing
no gratitude for what We have
given them. Enjoy yourselves
awhile; but soon you will know!
56 They even appoint a share of
what We have provided for them
[to false gods] they know nothing
of. You shall surely be questioned
about the lies you have been
fabricating.

57 They assign daughters to
God—glory be to Him!—but for

themselves [sons] that they desire to have. 58 When the birth of a girl is announced to any of them, his face darkens and he is filled with gloom. 59 In his shame he hides himself away from his people, because of the bad news he has been given. Should he keep her and feel disgraced or bury her in the dust? How ill they judge! 60 The attribute of evil applies to those who do not believe in the Hereafter, while to God applies the highest attribute, for He is Mighty, the Wise.

61 If God were to take people to task for their wrongdoing, He would not leave even one living creature on earth, but He gives them respite till an appointed time: when their time comes they cannot delay it for an hour, nor can they bring it forward.

62 They attribute to God what they themselves dislike and their tongues utter the lie that all good things are for themselves. Without doubt, the Fire awaits them, and they shall be hastened on into it.

63 By God! We have sent messengers before you to other nations. But Satan made their [foul] deeds seem fair to them and today he is their patron. They shall have a painful punishment. 64 We have only sent down the Book to you so that you can make clear to them that concerning which they differ, and as a guidance and a mercy to people who believe.

65 God sends down water from the sky and with it revives the earth when it is dead. There is truly a sign in this for people who listen.

66 There is also a lesson for you in cattle. From the contents of their bellies, from between the dung and blood, We give you pure milk to drink, pleasant for those who drink it. 67 From the fruit of the date palm and the grapes you derive intoxicants as well as wholesome food. Surely in this there is a sign for men of understanding.

68 Your Lord inspired the bee, saying, ‘Make your homes in the mountains, in the trees, and also in the structures which men erect.

69 Then feed on every kind of
fruit, and follow the trodden
paths of your Lord.’ From its
belly comes a drink with different
colours which provides healing
for mankind. Indeed, in this there
is a sign for people who give
thought.
70 God created you; then He
shall cause you to die: and some
shall have their lives prolonged
to abject old age, ceasing to
know anything after once having
had knowledge. God is all
knowing and powerful.
71 God has given some of you
more provision than others.
Those who have been given more
are unwilling to pass their
provision to the servants they
possess so that they become their
equals. Will they then deny the
favour of God?
72 God has given you wives
from among yourselves, and
given you children and
grandchildren from your wives,
and provided wholesome things
for you. Will they then believe in
falsehood and deny God’s
favours? 73 They worship, instead
of God, things that have no
control over their provision from
the heavens or the earth in any
way, nor do they have any power
[to do so]. 74 Do not compare
God with anyone. God has
knowledge, but you have not.
75 God makes a comparison
between an owned slave
possessing no power over
anything, and someone to whom
We have given plentiful
provision, who gives out from it
privately and openly. Are they
equal? Praise be to God! But
most people do not know it.
76 God makes another
comparison between two men,
one of whom is dumb and cannot
do a thing, and is a burden on his
master. Wherever he sends him
on an errand, he brings [him] no
good. Is he equal to someone
who commands justice and is on
a straight path?
77 God alone has knowledge
of the hidden reality of the
heavens and the earth; and the
coming of the Hour [of
Judgement] is like the twinkling
of an eye, or even quicker.

Surely God has full power over
everything.

78 God brought you forth from
the wombs of your mothers while
you knew nothing, and gave you
hearing and sight and hearts, so
that you might be grateful.

79 Do they not see the birds
held poised in the vault of
heaven? Nothing holds them up
except God. Truly, there are signs
in this for those who believe.
80 God has made your houses
places of rest for you and made
tents for you out of cattle hides,
which are light for you to carry,
both when you are travelling and
when you are staying in one
place. He provides for you from
the wool and fur and hair of
cattle, household goods and
articles for use for a time.

81 God has granted you shade
out of what He has created,
places of shelter in the
mountains, garments with which
to protect yourselves from the
heat and coats of mail to shield
you in battle. Thus He completes
His favour to you, so that you
may submit wholly to Him. 82 But
if they turn away, you are
responsible only for conveying
the message clearly. 83 They
recognize the favour of God, yet
they deny it; and most of them
are ungrateful.

84 On the Day when We raise
up a witness from every people,
those who were bent on denying
the truth will not be permitted to
put forward excuses, or to make
amends. 85 When the wrongdoers
face their punishment, it shall
not be lightened for them, nor
shall they be granted any
reprieve.

86 When those who associate
partners with God see their
associate gods, they will say,
'Our Lord, these are our associate
gods whom we used to call upon
instead of You.' But they will
throw back their words at them,
[saying], 'Indeed you are liars,'
87 and on that Day they will offer
total submission to God: and all
that they used to devise will fail
them. 88 Upon all who were bent
on denying the truth and who
turned others away from the path
of God, We will heap punishment

upon punishment, in return for
all the corruption that they
brought about.

89 The Day will come when
We raise up in every people a
witness against them from
amongst themselves, and We will
bring you as a witness against
these people. We have sent down
the Book to you to make
everything clear, a guidance, and
a mercy, and glad tidings for
those who submit to God.

90 God commands justice,
kindness and giving their [due
to] near relatives, and He forbids
all shameful deeds, and injustice
and transgression. He
admonishes you so that you may
take heed!

91 Fulfill the covenant of God
when you have made one; and
do not break your pledges after
their confirmation. Indeed you
have made God your surety; for
God knows all that you do. 92 Do
not, like the woman who unravels
her yarn after its strands have
been firmly spun, use your oaths
as a means of deceiving one
another, just because one
community could become bigger
than another. God is only testing
you by means of this. On the Day
of Resurrection He will make it
clear to you what you differed
about.

93 Had God pleased, He would
have united you in one
community; but He lets go astray
whoever He will, and guides
whoever He will, and you will
surely be called upon to account
for all your actions.

94 Do not use your oaths to
deceive each other lest any foot
should slip after being firmly
placed and lest you should taste
the penalty for having hindered
others from the path of God, for
then you will have a terrible
punishment. 95 Do not sell God's
covenant for a paltry price. What
is with God is better for you if
you only knew.

96 What you have shall pass
away, but what is with God is
lasting. We will certainly give
those who are patient their reward
according to the best of their
actions. 97 To whoever does good
deeds, man or woman, and is a

believer, We shall assuredly give
a good life; and We will bestow
upon them their reward according
to the best of their works.
98 When you read the Quran,
seek God's protection from
Satan, the rejected one. 99 Surely,
he has no power over those who
believe and put their trust in
their Lord; 100 he has power only
over those who are willing to
follow him and associate others
with God.
101 When We substitute one
revelation for another—and God
knows best what He reveals—
they say, 'You are but a
fabricator.' Indeed, most of them
have no knowledge. 102 Say, 'The
Holy Spirit has brought it down
as truth from your Lord, so that
He may strengthen those who
believe, and also as guidance
and as good tidings for those
who submit.'
103 Indeed, We know what they
say, 'It is only a human being
who imparts [all] this to him!'
But the tongue of him to whom
they point is foreign, whereas
this is plain Arabic speech.
104 God will not guide those who
will not believe in the signs of
God; and theirs will be a painful
punishment. 105 Only those
fabricate lies concerning God
who do not believe in the signs
of God, and these are the liars.
106 As for one who denies God
after he has believed, with the
exception of one who is forced
to do it, while his heart rests
securely in faith, but one who
opens his heart to a denial of
truth shall incur the wrath of
God; such as these will have a
terrible punishment. 107 This is
because they prefer the life of
this world to the Hereafter and
because God does not guide those
who deny the truth. 108 These are
the ones upon whose hearts and
hearing and sight God has set a
seal. It is they who are heedless,
109 and in the life to come, they
will surely be the losers.
110 Surely, your Lord will be
forgiving and merciful towards
those who migrated after
persecution and strove hard for
the cause of God and remained
steadfast. 111 On the Day each

soul will come pleading for itself, and every soul will be repaid according to whatever it has done, and they will not be wronged.
112 God makes an example of a town that was secure and at ease, with provisions coming to it abundantly from every quarter. Then it showed ingratitude for God's blessings and God afflicted it with hunger and fear because of what they did.
113 There came to them a messenger from among themselves, but they rejected him as false, so punishment overtook them, as they were wrongdoers.
114 So eat the lawful and good things which God has provided for you, and be thankful for the blessing of God, if it is Him you worship.
115 He has forbidden you only carrion, blood and the flesh of swine; also any [flesh] consecrated in the name of any but God. But if anyone is forced by dire necessity, not desiring it or exceeding his immediate need, God is forgiving and merciful towards him.
116 Do not falsely declare, 'This is lawful, and this is forbidden,' so as to invent a lie against God. Surely, those who invent a lie against God do not prosper—
117 their enjoyment of this life is brief, and they shall have a painful punishment.
118 We forbade the Jews those things We told you about before. We did not wrong them; rather they wronged themselves.
119 Surely, your Lord is most forgiving and ever merciful towards those who do evil in ignorance and truly repent thereafter and make amends.
120 Abraham was a community in himself devoted to God and true in faith, He was not one of the polytheists;
121 he was thankful for His blessings. God chose him and guided him to a straight path.
122 We gave him blessings in this world, and in the Hereafter he shall be among the righteous.
123 Then We revealed Our will to you [O Muhammad], saying, 'Follow the religion of Abraham, the upright in faith; he was not one of the polytheists.'

124 The Sabbath was only
enjoined on those who differed
about it. Your Lord will judge
between them on the Day of
Resurrection regarding the things
about which they differed.
125 Call to the way of
your Lord with wisdom and
fair exhortation and reason
with them in a way that
is best. Your Lord knows
best those who have strayed
away from His path, and He
knows best those who are
rightly guided.
126 If you want to retaliate,
retaliate to the same degree as
the injury done to you. But if you
are patient, it is better to be so.
127 Endure with patience; truly,
your patience is possible only
with the help of God. Do not
grieve for them, or feel distressed
because of their plottings, 128 for
God is with those who are
righteous and those who do good.

17. THE NIGHT JOURNEY

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Holy is He who took His servant
by night from the sacred place of
worship [at Makkah] to the
remote house of worship [at
Jerusalem]—the precincts of
which We have blessed, so that
We might show him some of Our
signs. Surely, it is He who is All
Hearing, and All Seeing.
2 We gave Moses the Book
and made it a guide for the
Children of Israel saying, ‘Do
not take anyone besides Me as a
guardian, 3 you who are the
descendants of those whom We
carried in the Ark with Noah. He
was a truly thankful servant.’
4 We forewarned the Children
of Israel in the Scripture, ‘Twice
you shall commit evil in the
land. You shall become great
transgressors.’ 5 When the time
of the first of these warnings
came, We sent against you

servants of Ours, of great might,
who ravaged your homes. So the
warning was fulfilled, 6 and after
a time We allowed you to prevail
over them once again and aided
you with wealth and offspring
and made you greater in number.
7 [We said], 'If you persevere
in doing good, you will be doing
good to yourselves; but if you do
evil, it will go against you.'
When the time of the second
warning came, [We roused
against you others] to disgrace
you utterly and to enter the place
of worship as they had entered it
before, utterly destroying all that
they laid their hands on. 8 We
said, 'Your Lord may yet have
mercy on you, but if you do the
same again, so shall We: We
have made Hell a prison for
those who deny the truth.'
9 Surely, this Quran guides to
the most upright way and gives
good news to the believers who
do good deeds, so that they will
have a great reward 10 and warns
those who deny the life to come
with grievous punishment.
11 Yet man asks for evil as
eagerly as he should ask for
good. Truly, man is indeed hasty.[a]
12 We have made the night and
the day as two signs. We blotted
out the sign of night and made
the sign of the day illuminating,
so that you may seek the bounty
of your Lord and learn to compute
the seasons and the years. We
have set everything forth in
detail.
13 We have tied the fate of
every man about his neck; and
We shall produce a book for him
on Resurrection Day that he will
find spread open. 14 It will say,
'Read your record, today there
will be none but yourself to call
you to account!' 15 Whoever

[a] God wants man to be patient about acquiring the immediate luxuries of the world, so that he should keep to the right path on his journey towards the Hereafter. But man, due to his hasty nature, rushes to acquire ephemeral worldly luxuries, which prove to be impediments to his continuing his onward journey. Man's desire for instant gratification is the greatest reason for his being deprived of the bounties of the Hereafter.

chooses to follow the right path,
follows it for his own good; and
whoever goes astray, goes astray
at his own peril; no bearer of
burdens shall bear the burdens
of another. Nor do We punish
until We have sent forth a
messenger to forewarn them.

16 When We decide to destroy
a town, We command the affluent
section of its people, but they
transgress therein; thus the word
[sentence of punishment] is
justified, then We destroy the
town utterly. 17 How many
generations have We destroyed
since Noah's time. Your Lord is
well aware of the sins of His
servants and observes them all.

18 We give whatever We will
to whoever desires immediate
gains; but then We have prepared
Hell for him which he will enter,
disgraced and rejected.
19 Anyone who desires the
Hereafter and makes a proper
effort to achieve it, being a true
believer, shall find favour with
God for his endeavours.

20 Upon all, both these [who
desire the world] and those [who
desire the Hereafter] We bestow
the bounty of your Lord: none
shall be denied the bounty of
your Lord—21 see how We have
exalted some above others [in
the present life]. Yet the Hereafter
shall be greater in degrees of
rank and greater in excellence.

22 Do not set up any other
deity beside God, lest you incur
disgrace, and be forsaken. 23 Your
Lord has commanded that you
should worship none but Him,
and show kindness to your
parents. If either or both of them
attain old age with you, say no
word of contempt to them and
do not rebuke them, but always
speak gently to them 24 and treat
them with humility and
tenderness and say, 'Lord, be
merciful to them both, as they
raised me up when I was little.'
25 Your Lord knows best what is
in your hearts; if you are
righteous, He is most forgiving
to those who constantly turn to
Him.

26 Give to your relatives their
due, and also to the needy and
the wayfarer. Yet do not spend

extravagantly; [27] spendthrifts are the brothers of Satan, and Satan is ever ungrateful to his Lord—
[28] but if, while waiting for your Lord's bounty which you are expecting, you turn them down, then at least speak to them kindly.

[29] Be neither miserly, nor so open-handed that you suffer reproach and become destitute.
[30] Your Lord gives abundantly to whom He will and sparingly to whom He pleases. He is informed and observant about His servants.

[31] You shall not kill your offspring for fear of want. It is We who provide for them, and for you. Indeed, killing them is a great sin.
[32] Do not commit adultery,[a] for it is an indecent thing and an evil course.

[33] Do not take life which God has made inviolate—except by right. If anyone is killed wrongfully, We have given authority to his heirs to demand retribution, but let them not transgress the prescribed limits in exacting retribution; for then he will be assisted [by the law].

[34] Do not go near the orphans' property, except with the best of intentions, until they reach maturity. Keep your promises; you will be called to account for every promise which you have made!
[35] Give full measure, when you measure, and weigh with accurate scales. That is fair, and better in the end.

[36] Do not follow what you do not know; for the ear and the eye and the heart shall all be called to account.
[37] Do not walk proudly on the earth. You cannot cleave the earth, nor can you rival the mountains in height.
[38] All that is evil in the sight of your Lord, and is detestable.

[39] This is part of the wisdom that your Lord has revealed to you. Do not set up any other deity with God, lest you be cast into Hell, condemned and rejected.

---

[a] One of the evils, which God wants to root out completely, is adultery, or *zina*. That is, adultery is such a great evil and is proof of such shamelessness, that man should abstain even from its initial stages. Here, only a basic command has been given on this subject.

40 What! Has your Lord then favoured you with sons and Himself adopted females from among the angels? What you say is monstrous. 41 We have explained [the truth] in this Quran in various ways, so that they may take heed, but it has only increased their aversion. 42 Say, 'If there were [other] deities along with Him, as they claim, then they would surely have tried to find a way to the Lord of the Throne. 43 Glory be to Him! Exalted above all that they say! 44 The seven heavens and the earth and all who dwell therein glorify Him. There is not a single thing but glorifies Him with His praise; but you do not understand their glorification. Truly, He is forbearing and most forgiving.'

45 When you recite the Quran, We place an invisible barrier between you and those who do not believe in the Hereafter. 46 We put veils over their hearts to prevent them from comprehending it, and We afflict their ears with deafness. When you mention your one and only Lord in your recitation of the Quran, they turn their backs in aversion.

47 We are fully aware of what they wish to hear when they listen to you; and what they say when they converse in private; and when the wrongdoers say, 'You are only following a man who is bewitched!' 48 See to what they liken you! But they are lost and cannot find the right path.

49 'What!' they say, 'When we are turned to bones and dust, shall we be restored to life?' 50 Say, '[yes] even if you turned to stones or iron, 51 or any other substance which you think unlikely to be given life.' Then they will ask, 'Who is it that shall restore us to life?' Answer them, 'He who created you the first time.' They will then shake their heads at you and say, 'When will that be?' Say, 'It may well be very soon.' 52 On that Day He will call you, and you will answer by praising Him, thinking that you have stayed for only a little while.'

53 Tell My servants that they

should always say what is best.
Satan stirs up discord among
them. Surely, Satan is an outright
enemy to man.
54 Your Lord is fully aware of
you. He may show you mercy if
He will, or punish you if He will.
We have not sent you as their
guardian. 55 Your Lord knows
best about everyone in the
heavens and on the earth. We
gave some prophets more than
others: We gave David the
Psalms.
56 Call upon those you claim
to be deities besides God and
you will know that they have no
power to remove affliction from
you or to bring about any change
[that you may desire]. 57 Those
whom they invoke are themselves
seeking a way of approach
to their Lord, vying with
each other to be near Him.
They hope for His mercy
and fear His punishment. Surely,
the punishment of your Lord
is to be feared: 58 there is
not a town [community] but
We shall destroy or sternly
punish it before the Day of
Judgement. That is recorded in
the Book.
59 Nothing prevents Us from
sending signs, except the fact
that previous peoples denied
them. We gave the people of
Thamud the she-camel as a clear
sign, yet they mistreated her. We
give signs only by way of
warning.
60 We told you that your Lord
encompasses mankind. We
granted the vision which We
showed you, as well as the tree
that is cursed in the Quran, only
as a test for mankind. We warn
them, but this only increases
their insolence.
61 When We said to the angels,
'Prostrate yourselves before
Adam,' they all prostrated
themselves except Iblis. He said,
'Am I to prostrate myself to
someone You have created out
of clay?' 62 and [further] said,
'Do you see this being whom
You have exalted above me? If
You reprieve me until the Day of
Resurrection, I will bring all but
a few of his descendents under
my sway.'

63 God said, ‘Go away! Hell
will be your reward and the
reward of any of them who follow
you—an ample recompense.
64 Go ahead and entice
whomsoever of them you can,
with your voice, and mount
assaults against them with your
cavalry and infantry and be their
partner in wealth and offspring,
and make promises to them—
Satan promises nothing but
delusion—65 but over My true
servants you shall have no power.
Your Lord will be their all-
sufficient guardian.’

66 Your Lord is He who causes
the ships to move onward for
you across the sea, so that you
may go in quest of His bounty:
He is most merciful towards
you. 67 When danger threatens
you at sea, you call upon Him,
and forget all others you are
wont to invoke. But when He
brings you safe to land, you turn
away from Him. Man is ever
ungrateful.

68 Do you then feel secure
against His causing you to be
swallowed up by the earth when
you are back on land, or His
sending a deadly sand storm
upon you? Then you will find
none to protect you. 69 Or do you
feel secure against His sending
you back to sea once again, and
raising a fierce gale against you
and causing you to drown in
requital for your ingratitude? You
will find no helper against Us
there.

70 We have honoured the
children of Adam, and have borne
them on the land and the sea,
given them for sustenance things
which are good and pure; and
exalted them above many of Our
creatures.

71 The Day will surely come
when We shall summon every
people with their leader. Then
those who are given their records
in their right hands will read
their records [eagerly] and shall
not in the least be wronged:
72 but whoever has been blind in
this life will be blind in the life
to come, and still farther astray
from the path [of truth].

73 They indeed sought to entice
you away from what We revealed

to you, hoping that you might
invent something else in Our name;
and then they would have accepted
you as a close friend. 74 If We had
not made you stand firm, you would
almost have inclined towards
them a little. 75 In that case, We
should have inflicted a double
punishment in this life, and a
double punishment after death.
Then you would have found no
one to help you against Us.

76 Indeed they came near to
unsettling you, so that they might
expel you from the land, but in
that case they themselves would
not have stayed on for very long
after you. 77 Such was Our way
with the messengers We sent
before you, and you will find no
change in Our ways.

78 Say your prayers from the
decline of the sun, until nightfall;
and at dawn—the recitation at
dawn is indeed witnessed. 79 And
during the night wake up and
pray, as an additional prayer: it
may well be that your Lord will
raise you to a station of praise
and glory.'

80 Say, 'Lord, grant me an
honourable entrance and an
honourable exit, and sustain me
with Your power.' 81 Say, 'Truth
has come and falsehood has
disappeared. Falsehood is always
bound to wither away.'

82 We send down in the Quran
that which is healing and a mercy
to those who believe; as for the evil-
doers, it only increases their loss.

83 When We bestow a favour
upon a person, he turns his back
and draws aside; and when evil
afflicts him he gives himself up
to despair. 84 Say to them,
'Everyone acts in his own way,
and your Lord knows best who is
rightly guided.'

85 They question you about the
Spirit. Say, 'The Spirit is at my
Lord's command, and you have
been granted but little
knowledge.'

86 If We pleased, We would
certainly take away that which
We have revealed to you—then
you would find no guardian for
you against Us—87 except
through the special mercy of
your Lord. His favours towards
you has been great indeed.

[88] Say, ‘If all men and jinn gathered together to produce the like of this Quran, they could not produce one like it, however much they helped one another.’

[89] In this Quran, We have set out all kinds of examples for people, yet most of them persist in denying the truth. [90] They declare, ‘We will never believe in you until you cause a spring to flow for us from the earth; [91] or you have a garden of date palms and vines, and cause streams to flow plentifully in the midst of them; [92] or you cause the heavens to fall down on us in pieces, as you have claimed; or you bring God and the angels before us face to face; [93] or you have a house made of gold; or you ascend to heaven; and we will not believe in your ascension until you send down to us a Book that we can read.’ Tell them, ‘Holy is my Lord. I am but a human being sent as a messenger.’

[94] Nothing has prevented men from believing whenever guidance came to them, save their query, ‘Has God sent a human being as a messenger?’ [95] Say, ‘If there had been angels walking around on earth, We would have sent an angel down from Heaven as a messenger for them.’ [96] Say, ‘God suffices as a witness between me and you [all]. He is informed about and observant of His servants.’

[97] Those whom God guides are the truly guided, and for those whom He lets go astray, you will find no helper besides Him, on the Day of Judgement. We shall gather them together, lying upon their faces, blind, dumb and deaf. Their abode shall be Hell. Every time the fire dies down, We will make it blaze up again for them. [98] That is their recompense, because they rejected Our signs and asked, ‘When we are reduced to bones and dust, shall we indeed be raised up as a new creation?’

[99] Do they not see that God, who has created heavens and earth, is able to create the like of them? He has appointed a definite term for them; there is

no doubt about it, but the wrongdoers persist in denying the truth. 100 Say, 'Even if you possessed the treasures of the mercy of my Lord, you would surely hold them back for fear of spending. Man is indeed niggardly!'

101 We did indeed give Moses nine manifest signs; you can enquire from the Children of Israel. When he came to them, Pharaoh said to him, 'Moses, I can see that you are bewitched.' 102 He said, 'You know full well that none has sent down these signs but the Lord of the heavens and the earth as eye-opening evidence. Indeed, Pharaoh, I can see that you are doomed.' 103 So he resolved to scare them out of the land: but We drowned him along with all those who were with him. 104 Thereafter, We said to the Israelites, 'Dwell in the land. When the promise of the Hereafter comes to be fulfilled, We shall assemble you all together.'

105 We have revealed the Quran with the truth, and with the truth it has come down. We have sent you forth only to give good news and to give warning—106 We have revealed the Quran bit by bit so that you may recite it to the people slowly and with deliberation. We have imparted it by gradual revelation.

107 Say to them, 'You may believe in it or not. Those to whom knowledge had been revealed, fall on their faces in prostration when it is recited, 108 and say, "Glory to our Lord! Our Lord's promise is bound to be fulfilled." 109 They fall down upon their faces weeping, and [the Quran] increases their humility.'

110 Say, 'Whether you call on God or on the Merciful One: His are the finest names.' Pray neither in too loud a voice nor in silence, but between these two extremes. Seek a middle way 111 and say, 'All praise is due to God who has never begotten a son and who has no partner in His kingdom; nor does anyone aid Him because of any weakness of His. Proclaim His greatness.'

18. THE CAVE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Praise be to God who has sent
down to His servant—the Book,
which is free from any ambiguity
2 and which rightly directs, to
give warning of stern punishment
from Him, and to proclaim to the
believers who do righteous deeds
that they shall have an excellent
recompense, 3 wherein they will
remain [in a state of bliss]
forever. 4 And to warn those who
say, 'God has taken to Himself a
son.' 5 They have no knowledge
of this, nor did their forefathers
have any either. What they say is
monstrous: they are merely
uttering falsehoods!

6 Perhaps you may destroy
yourself with grief if they do not
believe in this message. 7 We
have adorned the earth with
attractive things, so that We may
test mankind as to which one is
best in conduct, 8 but We shall
reduce all this to barren waste.

9 Do you think that the Men of
the Cave and the Inscription
were one of Our wondrous signs?
10 When the young men sought
refuge in the cave, they said,
'Our Lord, grant us Your special
mercy and give us right guidance
in our affair.' 11 Then We caused
them to fall into a deep sleep for
many years inside the cave.
12 Then We woke them up again
so that We might see which of
the two groups would better
calculate the time they had stayed
there.

13 We shall tell you their story
as it really was. They were young
men who believed in their
Lord, and on whom We
bestowed further guidance. 14 We
strengthened their hearts, when
they rose up and declared, 'Our
Lord is the Lord of the heavens
and the earth. Never shall we
call upon any deity other than
Him: for that would be an
outrageous thing to do. 15 These
people of ours have taken deities
other than Him. Why do they not

produce clear evidence about them? Who is more wicked than the man who invents a falsehood against God?

16 'Now that you have withdrawn from them and from all that they worship instead of God, take refuge in that cave; your Lord will extend His mercy to you and will make fitting provision for you in your situation.'

17 The sun could be observed to incline away from their cave on the right, as it rose, and to turn away from them on the left, when it set, while they lay in the wide space inside the cave. This is one of the signs of God. He whom God guides is rightly guided; but for him whom He lets go astray, you will find no helper or guide.

18 You would have thought they were awake, though they lay asleep. We turned them over, to the right and the left, while their dog lay at the cave's entrance with legs outstretched. Had you looked down and seen them, you would have surely turned your back and fled in terror.

19 In the course of time, We raised them up again so that they might question one another. One of them asked, 'How long have you stayed [here]?' They said, 'We have stayed a day, or part of a day.' But others said, 'Your Lord knows best how long you have stayed here. Let one of you go then with these silver coins to the town, and let him find out what food is purest there, and bring you back a supply of it. Let him conduct himself with caution and not disclose your whereabouts to anyone: 20 for if they find you out, they will stone you to death, or force you back into their faith. In that case you would never prosper.'

21 Thus We disclosed things to them so that they might know that God's promise was true and there was no doubt about the Hour [Judgement Day]. The people argued about them among themselves. They said, 'Build a monument over them. Their Lord knows best concerning them.'

Those who prevailed in their
affair said, ‘Let us surely build a
place of worship over them.’
22 Some will say, ‘They were
three, the fourth was their dog,’
and others will say, ‘They were
five, the sixth was their dog,’
guessing at random. And yet
others say, ‘They were seven, the
eighth was their dog.’ Say, ‘My
Lord knows best their number.’
Only a few know anything about
them. Therefore, do not enter
into controversies over them,
nor seek information about them
from any of them; 23 never say of
anything, ‘I shall certainly do
this tomorrow,’ 24 without
[adding], “if God so wills.”
Remember your Lord whenever
you might forget and say, ‘I trust
my Lord will guide me to that
which is even nearer to the right
path than this.’
25 [Some say], ‘They stayed in
their cave three hundred years,’
and to that some have added
another nine years. 26 Say, ‘God
knows best how long they stayed
in it.’ Only God has knowledge
of the unseen in the heavens and
on the earth. How well He sees
and how well He hears! Man has
no other guardian besides Him.
He allows none to share His
sovereignty.
27 Proclaim what has been
revealed to you from your Lord’s
Book. None can change His
words. You shall find no refuge
besides Him. 28 Keep yourself
attached to those who call on
their Lord, morning and evening,
seeking His pleasure; and do not
let your eyes turn away from
them, desiring the attraction of
worldly life; and do not obey one
whose heart We have made
heedless of Our remembrance,
one who pursues his own whims
and becomes dissolute.
29 Say, ‘This is the truth from
your Lord. Let him who will,
believe in it, and him who will,
deny it.’ For the wrongdoers We
have prepared a Fire which will
cover them like a canopy, and if
they beg for water, they will be
given water as hot as molten
lead, which will scald their faces:
how dreadful a drink, and how
evil a resting place!

30 As for those who believe
and do good deeds—We do not
let the reward of anyone who
does a good deed go to waste—
31 they shall dwell in the Gardens
of eternity where rivers flow at
their feet. Reclining upon raised
couches, they will be adorned
with bracelets of gold, and will
wear green robes of fine silk and
heavy brocade. An excellent
reward and an excellent resting
place!

32 Recite to them the parable
of two men! One of them We
provided with two vineyards
which We surrounded with date-
palms, and placed a field of
grain in between; 33 each garden
produced its fruit and did not fail
to yield its best; We even caused
a river to gush forth in the midst
of them, 34 and so he had fruit in
abundance. While conversing
with his companion, he said, 'I
am wealthier than you are, and
have a bigger following!'
35 Having thus harmed his own
soul, he entered his garden
saying, 'I do not think this will
ever perish, 36 and I do not believe
that the Hour will ever come.
Even if I am returned to my
Lord, I shall surely find a better
place than this.'

37 His companion replied, in
the course of their discussion,
'Do you deny Him who created
you from dust, from a small drop
of fluid, then formed you into a
man? 38 But as far as I am
concerned, God alone is my Lord
and I set up no partners with
Him. 39 When you entered your
garden, why did you not say,
"That which God wills [will
surely come to pass], there is no
power save with God?" Although
you see I have less wealth and
offspring than you, 40 my Lord
may well give me a garden better
than yours and send down
thunderbolts from heaven upon
your vineyard, turning it into a
barren waste; 41 or its water may
sink into the earth, so that you
will never be able to find it
again!'

42 So it was, and all his fruit
was destroyed. The vines had all
fallen down on their trellises,
and their owner wrung his hands,

bewailing all that he had spent on his garden. He said, ‘Would that I had not associated anyone with my Lord!’ 43 He had no party to help him against God, nor was he able to defend himself. 44 The only support is from God, the True God. He is the best in rewarding and the best in respect of the final outcome.

45 Give them an example about worldly life. It is like the vegetation of the earth that thrives when watered by the rain, which We send down from the sky, and then it all becomes stubble which the wind blows away. God has power over all things. 46 Wealth and children are an ornament of the life of this world. But deeds of lasting merit are better rewarded by your Lord and a far better source of hope.

47 The Day We shall make the mountains move and you will see the earth laid bare, and We shall gather all mankind together and shall not leave any one of them behind. 48 They will be ranged before your Lord, standing in rows and He will say to them, ‘Now you have come to Us as We created you at first. But you supposed that We would not appoint the time for the fulfillment of Our promise to you.’

49 The Book [of deeds] will be placed before them and you will see the guilty apprehensive about its contents. They will say, ‘Woe to us! What a record this is! It does not leave any deed, small or large, unaccounted for!’ They will find everything they ever did laid in front of them: your Lord will not be unjust to anyone.

50 When We said to the angels, ‘Prostrate yourselves before Adam,’ all prostrated themselves except Satan. He was one of the jinn and he disobeyed his Lord’s command. Do you then take him and his offspring as protectors instead of Me, despite their enmity towards you? This is an evil exchange for the wrongdoers!

51 I did not call them to witness at the creation of the heavens and the earth, nor at their own

creation; I do not take as My helpers those who lead others astray.

52 On that Day He will say to them, ‘Call on those whom you thought to be My partners.’ And they will call on them, but their prayer will not be heard; and We shall place a barrier [of enmity] between them. 53 The guilty shall see the Fire and realize that they are going to fall into it: they shall find no way of escape from it.

54 We have explained in various ways in this Quran, for the benefit of mankind, all kinds of examples, but man is most contentious. 55 Nothing prevents people from believing when they are given guidance or from asking forgiveness of their Lord, but the fact that the fate of the previous peoples should befall them or to have the punishment come upon them face to face.

56 We only send the messengers to bring good news and to give warning. Those who deny use fallacious arguments to nullify the truth, treating My revelations and My warnings as a jest. 57 Who is more wicked than he who has been reminded of the revelations of his Lord, then turns away from them and forgets what his own hands have done? We have cast veils over their hearts lest they understand Our words, and made them hard of hearing. Call them as you may to the right path, they shall never be guided.

58 Your Lord is the Forgiving One, the possessor of mercy. If He had to take them to task for the wrongs they have done, He would have hastened their punishment. They have an appointed time beyond which there will be no escape for them. 59 We destroyed these communities when they went on doing wrong, and We appointed a time for their destruction.

60 Recall how Moses said to his servant, ‘I shall not give up until I reach the place where both seas meet, even if it takes me years!’ 61 But when at last they came to the land where the two seas met, they forgot their fish and it swiftly made its way into the sea. 62 After they had

passed the place, Moses said to his young companion, ‘Bring us our morning meal; we have indeed been fatigued by this journey.’

63 He replied, ‘Did you see when we were resting by the rock, that I forgot the fish? Satan made me forget it, so I did not mention it. It made its way to the sea in a miraculous way!’ 64 Moses said, ‘That is just what we were looking for.’ So they went back the way they had come, 65 and they found one of Our servants to whom We had granted Our mercy and had given a knowledge from Ourself.

66 Moses said to him, ‘May I follow you, so that you may guide me by what you have been taught?’ 67 He replied, ‘You will not be able to bear with me patiently. 68 How could you be patient in matters beyond your knowledge?’ 69 Moses said, ‘God willing, you will find me patient, and I will not disobey you in any thing.’ 70 He said, ‘Well then, if you would follow me, do not ask me about anything till I speak of it to you.’

71 So they set out, but, when they got into a boat, the man made a hole in it. Moses exclaimed, ‘Have you made a hole in the boat to drown the people in it? You have indeed done a dreadful thing!’ 72 He replied, ‘Did I not tell you that you would never be able to bear with me patiently?’ 73 He said, ‘Do not take me to task for what I have forgotten, and do not be hard on me on account of what I have done!’ 74 So they travelled on. Then they met a young boy and the man killed him. Moses said, ‘Have you slain an innocent person without his having slain anyone? Indeed, you have done a terrible thing!’

75 The man said, ‘Did I not tell you that you would not be able to have any patience with me?’ 76 Moses replied, ‘If I ever ask you about anything after this, do not let me accompany you. I will have given you sufficient excuse.’ 77 So they went on until they came to a town. They asked its people for food, but were refused hospitality. They found a

wall in the town which was
about to fall down. His
companion buttressed it and
Moses said, ‘Had you wished,
you could have demanded
payment for your labours.’ 78 He
answered, ‘This is where you
and I must part company. But
first I will tell you the meaning
of the things you could not bear
with patiently.

79 ‘The boat belonged to some
poor people who made their
living from the sea. I wanted to
damage it because there was a
king coming behind them who
was seizing every boat by force.

80 As for the youth, his parents
were believers and we feared
that he would trouble them by
rebellion and denial of truth.
81 We wanted their Lord to
replace him with someone
purer than him and more
compassionate.

82 ‘The wall belonged to two
young orphans in the town whose
father had been a righteous man,
and a treasure of theirs lay
underneath it. So your Lord
wanted them to come of age and
then to dig up their treasure as a
mercy from Him. I did not do [it]
of my own accord. That is the
explanation of the things about
which you were not able to
restrain yourself.’

83 They will ask you about
Dhu’l-Qarnayn. Say, ‘I will give
you an account of him.’ 84 We
established him in the land, and
gave him the means to achieve
all things.

85 He travelled on a certain
road; 86 until, when he reached
the setting of the sun, he found
it setting in a spring of murky
water and near it he found
some people. We said, ‘Dhu’l-
Qarnayn! You can either punish
them or else you can treat them
with gentleness.’ 87 He said, ‘We
shall certainly punish him who
does wrong; then he shall be
brought back to his Lord who
will punish him with a grievous
punishment, 88 but whoever
believes and does good works
shall have a good reward and We
shall facilitate his matter by Our
command.’

89 Then he followed yet another

path, 90 until he came to the
rising-place of the sun, where he
found it rising on a people for
whom We had provided no
shelter from it. 91 Thus indeed it
was. We had full knowledge
of him.

92 Then he followed still
another path, 93 until he came
between two mountains. He
found beside them a people who
could scarcely understand a word
[of his language]. 94 They said,
'O Dhu'l-Qarnayn! Gog and
Magog are causing corruption in
the land, so may we pay you
tribute on condition that you set
a barrier between us and them?'

95 He said, 'What My Lord has
given me is better [than any
tribute]. Help me with a force of
labourers and I will erect a barrier
between you and them: 96 bring
me blocks of iron.' Then, when
he had filled the gap between the
mountain sides [he said], 'Now
blow on the fire with your
bellows.' When the iron blocks
were red with heat, he said,
'Bring me molten brass to pour
on them.' 97 So they [Gog and
Magog] were not able to scale it,
nor were they able to bore
through it, 98 and he said, 'This
is a mercy from my Lord. But
when the promise of my Lord
comes to pass, He will level it to
dust. My Lord's promise is ever
true!'

99 On that Day, We shall let
them surge against each other
like waves and then the Trumpet
will be blown and We shall gather
them all together. 100 On that
Day We shall lay Hell bare before
those who deny the truth,
101 who have turned a blind eye
to My reminder and a deaf ear to
My warning.

102 Do those who deny the
truth, think that they can make
My servants patrons instead of
Me? We have reserved Hell as a
lodging for those who deny the
truth.

103 Say, 'Shall I tell you of
those who will lose the most
through their actions? 104 They
are those whose efforts have
been wasted in the life of the
world while they thought they
were doing good. 105 They are

those who deny their Lord's signs and the meeting with Him.' So their works are in vain, and We shall give them no weight on the Day of Resurrection. 106 Hell will be their reward, because they denied the truth, and made a jest of My signs and My messengers.

107 Those who believe and do good works shall have the gardens of Paradise for their abode. 108 They shall forever dwell in the Gardens of Paradise, desiring no change.

109 Tell them, 'If the ocean became ink for writing the words of my Lord, surely the ocean would be exhausted before the words of my Lord came to an end—even if We were to add another ocean to it.'

110 Say, 'I am only a human being like yourselves. It is revealed to me that your God is One God. So let him who hopes to meet his Lord do good deeds and let him associate no one else in the worship of his Lord.'

19. MARY

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Kaf Ha Ya 'Ayn Sad*

2 This is an account of your Lord's mercy bestowed upon His servant Zachariah, 3 when he called upon his Lord in low tones, saying, 4 'Lord, my bones have weakened and my head has turned hoary with age, but never, Lord, have I been disappointed in my prayer to you: 5 now I fear my kinsmen when I am gone. [I have no hope of their continuing my mission] for my wife is barren, so grant me a successor from Yourself, 6 to be my heir and to be the heir [of the blessings] of the House of Jacob; and make him, O my Lord, acceptable to you.'

7 'Zachariah, We bring you good news of a son whose name

shall be John. We have not given
such a name to anyone before.’
8 ‘My Lord!’ [said Zachariah],
‘How shall I have a son when my
wife is barren and I have reached
such extreme old age?’

9 He said, ‘It will be so! Your
Lord says, “It is easy for Me for
I created you when you were
nothing before.”’ 10 He said, ‘My
Lord, grant me a sign!’ He said,
‘Your sign will be that you will
not speak to anyone for three
successive days and nights,
although sound in body.’ 11 Then
Zachariah came forth from the
shrine to his people and told
them by signs to glorify the Lord
morning and evening.

12 To John We said, ‘Hold fast
the Book,’ and while he was still
a child, We bestowed upon him
wisdom, 13 and tenderness [of
heart] and purity. He was pious,
14 and dutiful towards his parents
and was not haughty or
disobedient. 15 Peace be on him
on the day of his birth, and on
the day of his death, and peace
will be on him on the day he is
raised up to life again.

16 Recount in the Book how
Mary withdrew from her people
to an eastern place 17 and kept
herself in seclusion from them.
We sent her Our angel, who
presented himself to her as
a full-grown human being.
18 When she saw him, she said, ‘I
seek refuge in the compassionate
God from you; [do not come
near] if you fear the Lord.’ 19 ‘I
am only the messenger of your
Lord,’ he replied. ‘I shall bestow
upon you the gift of a son
endowed with purity.’ 20 She said,
‘How can I have a son when no
man has touched me; and neither
have I been unchaste?’ 21 [The
angel] replied, ‘So shall it be;
your Lord says, “This is easy for
Me; and We shall make him a
sign to people and a blessing,
from Us. This has been
decreed.”’

22 So she conceived him and
withdrew with him to a distant
place. 23 The pains of labour
drove her to the trunk of a date-
palm. She said, ‘Oh, if only I had
died before this and passed into
oblivion!’

24 But a voice called out to her
from below, ‘Do not despair.
Your Lord has provided a brook
that runs at your feet, 25 and if
you shake the trunk of this palm-
tree, it will drop fresh ripe dates
on you. 26 Eat and drink and
rejoice. And if you see any human
being say, “I have vowed a fast
[of silence] to the Gracious God,
and will not speak with any
human being today.”’

27 Carrying her child, she
brought him to her people. They
said, ‘O Mary, you have indeed
done something terrible! 28 Sister
of Aaron, your father was not an
evil man, nor was your mother
an unchaste woman!’

29 She pointed to the child.
They said, ‘How shall we talk to
someone who is a child in the
cradle?’ 30 [But] he said, ‘I am
God’s servant. He has given me
the Book and made me a prophet;
31 He has made me blessed
wherever I may be, and has
enjoined upon me prayer and
almsgiving throughout my life.
32 He has made me dutiful toward
my mother, and He has not made
me arrogant or wicked. 33 Blessed
was I on the day I was born, and
blessed I shall be on the day I die
and on the day I am raised to life
again.’

34 Such was Jesus, the son of
Mary. That is the whole truth,
about which they still dispute:
35 it does not befit the majesty of
God that He should beget a son.
Glory be to Him! He is far above
that: when He decrees something,
He says only, ‘Be!’ and it is.

36 God is my Lord and your
Lord, so worship Him alone.
That is the right path. 37 Yet
different groups differed among
themselves. How awful it will be
for those who have rejected the
truth when a dreadful Day
arrives! 38 How sharp of hearing,
how sharp of sight they will be
when they come to Us. But today,
these evil-doers are obviously
lost in error.

39 Warn them of [the coming
of] the Day of Remorse, when
everything will have been
decided, while they are heedless
and do not believe. 40 It is We
who will inherit the earth and all

who dwell upon it: they shall all
return to Us.

41 Also recount the story of
Abraham in the Book. He was a
man of truth, and a prophet.
42 He said to his father, 'Why do
you worship something that can
neither hear nor see nor benefit
you in any way? 43 Father, I have
been given some knowledge
which has not come to you, so
follow me: I shall guide you
along a straight path. 44 Father!
Do not worship Satan—for, truly,
Satan is a rebel against the Most
Gracious One! 45 Father, indeed
I fear lest a punishment from the
Gracious One afflict you, and
you become a friend of Satan.'

46 [His father] said, 'Do you
reject my deities, Abraham? If
you do not desist, I shall surely
stone you to death. Keep out of
my way!' 47 Abraham replied,
'Peace be on you: I will pray to
my Lord for your forgiveness—
He has indeed been gracious to
me—48 I will separate myself
from you and from whatever you
call upon besides God, and I will
pray only to my Lord. It may
well be that, in calling on my
Lord, I will not be disappointed.'

49 So when he had separated
himself from them and from
what they worshipped besides
God, We bestowed on him Isaac
and Jacob, and We made each of
them a prophet. 50 We granted
them Our mercy and bestowed
on them true and high renown.

51 Tell also of Moses in the
Book. He was indeed a chosen
one, and was a messenger and a
prophet. 52 We called out to him
from the right side of the mount
and made him draw near to be in
close communion with Us; 53 and
We gave him as his helper, out of
Our mercy, his brother Aaron,
having made him a prophet.

54 Tell also of Ishmael in the
Book. He was true to his promise
and was a messenger and a
prophet. 55 He exhorted his
people to prayer and almsgiving,
and his Lord was pleased with
him. 56 Tell also of Idris in the
Book. He was a man of truth and
a prophet. 57 We raised him to a
high position.

58 These are the ones whom

God has favoured: the prophets
from among the descendants of
Adam and of those whom We
carried in the Ark with Noah; the
descendants of Abraham, of
Israel, and of those whom We
have guided and chosen. For
when the revelations of the
Merciful were recited to them,
they fell down, prostrating
themselves and weeping.
59 But then they were
succeeded by generations who
neglected their prayers and were
driven by their own desires. They
will assuredly meet with
destruction, 60 except for those
who repent and believe and do
good deeds. These will enter
Heaven, and they will not be
wronged in the least.
61 Theirs shall be the Gardens
of Eden, which the All Merciful
has promised to His servants
without their having seen them,
and most surely His promise
shall be fulfilled. 62 They will
not hear therein anything vain,
only greetings of peace. They
will receive their provision there
morning and evening. 63 That is
the Garden which We will grant
to those of Our servants who
have been God-fearing.
64 We never descend except at
your Lord's command. What is
before us and behind us and all
that lies between belong to Him.
Your Lord is not forgetful. 65 He
is the Lord of the heavens and of
the earth and of all that is between
the two. So worship Him alone
and be steadfast in His worship.
Do you know of anyone equal to
Him in His attributes?
66 Man asks, 'When I am once
dead, shall I be raised to life?'
67 But does man not remember
that We created him when he
was nothing before? 68 By your
Lord, We shall most surely gather
them and the devils too; and
bring them close to hell on their
knees.
69 Then We shall carry off from
every group those who were
most stubborn in their opposition
to the Gracious One—70 We
surely know best those most
deserving of the fires of hell—
71 and there is not one of you but
shall pass through it: a decree

from your Lord which must be
fulfilled. 72 Then We shall save
those who feared God, but the
wrongdoers shall be left there on
their knees.

73 When Our clear revelations
are recited to them, those who
deny the truth say to the faithful,
'Which of the two sides is better
in respect of position and makes
a more impressive assembly?'
74 We have destroyed so many
generations before them, who
surpassed them in material power
and splendour.

75 Say, 'The Gracious One
grants respite for a time to those
who are in error until, when they
are confronted with what
they are promised, either in
punishment [in the world] or in
[the approach of] the Hour, they
will realize who is worse in
respect of position and who is
weaker in resources.'

76 God increases His guidance
to those who follow guidance;
and lasting good works are better
in the sight of your Lord and are
most rewarding.

77 Have you seen him who
denies the truth in Our revelations
and says, 'I shall certainly be
given wealth and children.'
78 Has he looked to the unseen,
or has he made a pledge to the
Merciful One? 79 Indeed not. We
shall record what he says and
shall prolong the punishment for
him. 80 We shall inherit all that
he boasts of, and he will come to
Us all alone. 81 They have taken
other deities besides God, so
that they may be a source of
strength for them. 82 But they
shall reject their worship and
turn against them.

83 Do you not see that We
have appointed devils to incite
those who deny the truth to
disobedience? 84 So take no hasty
action against them; their days
are numbered. 85 The Day will
surely come when We shall
gather the God-fearing like
[honoured] guests before the
Compassionate God 86 and We
shall drive the sinful like a thirsty
herd into Hell. 87 No one will
have power to intercede, except
for those who have permission
from the Lord of Mercy.

88 They say, 'The Gracious One
has begotten a son.' 89 Assuredly,
you have uttered a monstrous
falsehood: 90 the heavens might
well-nigh burst thereat, and the
earth break asunder, and the
mountains fall down in pieces,
91 because they ascribe a son to
the Gracious One. 92 It does not
become the majesty of the
Compassionate God to take to
Himself a son: 93 there is none in
the heavens or on the earth but
shall return to the Merciful in
utter submission— 94 He has
counted them and numbered
them precisely— 95 each one of
them shall come to Him one by
one on the Day of Judgement.
96 The Lord of Mercy will bestow
affection upon those who believe
and perform righteous deeds.

97 We have made it [the Quran]
easy, in your own language
[Prophet], so that you may
convey glad news to the righteous
and give warning to a stubborn
people. 98 How many generations
We have destroyed before them!
Can you find a single one of
them alive now, or hear so much
as a whisper from them?

20. *TA HA*

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Ta Ha*

2 We have not sent the Quran
down to you to distress you,
3 but only as an exhortation for
him who fears God; 4 it is a
revelation from Him who has
created the earth and the high
heavens, 5 the All Merciful
settled on the throne. 6 To Him
belongs whatever is in the
heavens and whatever is on the
earth, and whatever lies in
between them, and all that lies
under the ground.

7 Whether you speak aloud [or
in a low voice], He hears all, for
He knows your secrets and what

is even more hidden. [8] God, there is no deity but Him. His are the most excellent names.

[9] Have you heard the story of Moses? [10] When he saw a fire, he said to his family, ‘Wait here. I can see a fire. Perhaps I can bring you a brand from it, or find some guidance at the fire.’

[11] When he came close to it, a voice called out, ‘Moses, [12] I am your Lord! Take off your sandals, for you are in the sacred valley of Tuwa. [13] I have chosen you. So listen to what is being revealed. [14] I am God. There is no deity save Me; so worship Me alone, and say your prayers in My remembrance. [15] The Hour is coming. But I choose to keep it hidden, so that every human being may be recompensed in accordance with his labours. [16] Do not let anyone who does not believe in it and follows his own desires turn you away from it and so bring you to ruin.’

[17] ‘What do you have in your right hand, Moses?’ [18] He replied, ‘It is my staff. I lean on it, and with it, I beat down the leaves for my flock; I also have other uses for it.’ [19] God said, ‘Moses, cast it down.’ [20] So he threw it down, and all of a sudden, it turned into a fast-moving serpent. [21] God said, ‘Take hold of it, and have no fear: We shall return it to its former state. [22] Put your hand under your armpit: it will come out [shining] white, without any blemish. This shall be another sign.[a] [23] We shall show you some of Our greatest signs. [24] Go to Pharaoh; he has transgressed all bounds.’

[25] Moses said, ‘My Lord! open up my heart, [26] and make my task easy for me. [27] Loosen the knot in my tongue, [28] so that they may understand my speech, [29] and appoint for me a helper from among my family, [30] Aaron, my

---

[a] The fact is that whatever there is in this world, or whatever the events, all are ‘miracles’ of God, be it the emerging of a sapling from the earth or a stick becoming a snake. ‘Extraordinary’ miracles are shown through prophets to make man take notice of the everyday miracles wrought by God.

brother. 31 Strengthen me through
him, 32 and let him share my
task, 33 so that we may glorify
You much 34 and remember You
much: 35 You are surely watching
over us. 36 God said, 'You have
been granted your request, Moses.'

37 Indeed, We showed Our
favour to you before also, 38 when
We revealed Our will to your
mother, saying, 39 "Put him into
a chest, then cast it into the river.
The river will cast it on to the
bank, and there he shall be taken
up by an enemy of Mine and
his." I showered My love on you
so that you might be reared under
My watchful eye. 40 Recall when
your sister walked along and
said, "Shall I guide you to one
who will take care of him?"
Thus We returned you to your
mother, so that her eyes might
be cooled and that she might not
grieve. And you killed a man and
We delivered you from sorrow.
We tested you with various trials.
You stayed for a number of years
among the people of Midian,
then you came upto the standard,
Moses.

41 I have chosen you for
Myself. 42 Go, you and your
brother, with My signs, and do
not be remiss in remembering
Me. 43 Go, both of you to
Pharaoh, for he has transgressed
all bounds. 44 But speak gently
to him; perhaps he may yet take
heed or even feel afraid.'

45 They both said, 'Our Lord,
We fear that he may commit
some excess against us, or exceed
all bounds in transgression.'
46 God said, 'Do not fear; I am
with you both. I hear and I see.
47 Go to him and say, "We are
both messengers from your Lord.
Let the Children of Israel go
with us, and do not oppress
them. We have brought you a
Sign from your Lord, and may
peace be upon whoever follows
the right guidance; 48 it has been
revealed to us that punishment
shall overtake him who rejects it
and turns away!"'

49 Pharaoh said, 'Who then is
the Lord of you both, Moses?'
50 Moses replied, 'Our Lord is
He who has given everything its
form, then guided it.' 51 Pharaoh

asked, ‘What about the previous generations?’ 52 Moses said, ‘My Lord alone has knowledge of that, recorded in a Book. My Lord neither errs nor forgets.’

53 It is He who has laid out the earth for you and traced routes in it and sent down water from the sky. We have brought forth every sort of plant with it, 54 so eat and graze your cattle. In this there are signs for men of understanding. 55 From the earth We have created you and We will return you to it, and from it We shall bring you forth a second time.[a]

56 We showed Pharaoh all Our signs but he rejected them and refused to believe in them. 57 He said, ‘Have you come to us to turn us out of our land by means of your magic, Moses? 58 We will certainly bring you magic to match it. So appoint a time between us and you, in an open space, which neither we nor you will fail to keep.’

59 Moses said, ‘The day of the encounter will be the day of the festival, and let the people assemble when the sun has risen high.’ 60 So Pharaoh withdrew, devised his stratagem and returned. 61 Moses said to them, ‘Woe to you! Do not invent lies against God, lest He destroy you by some calamity: whoever invents lies is bound to fail.’

62 Then they [the magicians] conferred among themselves, whispering to one another. 63 They said, ‘Certainly they are both magicians who want to drive you out of your land by their magic, and destroy your best traditions. 64 Therefore, decide upon your plan and then come forward in ranks. Whoever gains the upper hand today shall surely triumph.’

65 They said, ‘Moses, will you throw down first, or shall we be

---

[a] The creation of the earth, the institution of the system of rainfall, the growth of plants and greenery and other natural phenomena that have made the present world habitable for living things, are astonishingly great and wonderful manifestations.

the first to throw down?'
66 Moses said, 'You throw down first.' Suddenly their ropes and staffs appeared to him, by their magic, to be moving about
rapidly, 67 and in his heart Moses
became apprehensive, 68 but We
said, 'Do not be afraid. It is you
who shall prevail.' 69 Throw
down that [staff] which is in your right hand—it shall swallow up what they have wrought, for what they have wrought is only a magician's trick. A magician shall never thrive, come whence
he may. 70 The magicians then
prostrated themselves. They said, 'We believe in the Lord of Aaron and Moses.'

71 Pharaoh said, 'Have you believed in him before I permit you? He must be your master who has taught you magic. I will cut your hands and feet off on opposite sides, and have you crucified on the trunks of palm-trees. You shall know whose punishment is more severe and more lasting.'

72 They said, 'Never shall we prefer you to all the evidence of the truth that has come to us. Nor to Him who has brought us into being. So decide whatever you will. Your jurisdiction only covers the life of this world—
73 we have believed in our Lord so that He may forgive us our sins and forgive us the sorcery that you have forced us to practice. God is the best and the most abiding.'

74 Indeed, he who comes to his Lord a sinner shall be consigned to Hell; he shall neither die
therein nor live. 75 But he who
comes to Him as a believer, having done good deeds, shall be exalted to the highest ranks,
76 he will abide forever in the Gardens of eternity, through which rivers flow. That is the recompense for those who purify themselves.

77 We sent a revelation to Moses saying, 'Take away My servants by night and strike for them a dry path through the sea. Have no fear of being overtaken
and do not be afraid.' 78 Pharaoh
pursued them with his hosts, but they were submerged by the

sea, which was destined to overwhelm them. 79 For Pharaoh had led his people astray and did not guide them.

80 Children of Israel! We delivered you from your enemies and We made a covenant with you on the right side of the Mount. We sent down manna and quails for you, 81 'Eat from the wholesome things with which We have provided you but do not transgress, lest you should incur My wrath.' [We said], 'He that incurs My wrath shall surely be ruined. 82 But I am most forgiving towards him who turns in repentance and believes and acts righteously and follows the right path.'

83 [When Moses was upon the Mount, God said,] 'O Moses, why have you come with such haste from your people?' 84 He said, 'They are following in my footsteps, while I have hastened to You, my Lord, to please You.' 85 But God said, 'We have tested your people in your absence. The Samiri has led them astray.'

86 Moses returned to his people in anger and great sorrow. He said, 'My people, did your Lord not make you a handsome promise? Was my absence too long for you? Did you desire that your Lord's wrath should descend upon you, when you broke your promise to me?'

87 They answered, 'We did not break our promise to you of our own accord, but we had to carry loads of the people's ornaments and so we threw them [into the fire] for that was what the Samiri suggested,' 88 then he forged a calf for them—an image producing a lowing sound. They said, 'This is your deity, the deity of Moses; he has forgotten it.' 89 Why did they not see that it could not give them any response and had no power to harm or benefit them?

90 Aaron had already told them, 'O my people! You are only being tested by this. Your Lord is the All Merciful, so follow me and obey my command.' 91 They replied, 'We shall not cease to worship it until Moses returns to us.'

92 Moses said to Aaron, 'What

prevented you, when you saw
that they had gone astray, 93 from
following me? Why did you
disobey my command?' 94 Aaron
said, 'Son of my mother! Do not
seize me by my beard nor by my
head. I was afraid that you would
say, "You have caused dissension
among the Children of Israel and
did not pay heed to my words."'
95 Moses said, 'What was the
matter with you, Samiri?' 96 He
said, 'I perceived what they did
not see. So I took a handful [of
dust] from the footprint of the
Messenger and threw it in [the
calf]. That is what my inner self
prompted me to do.' 97 Moses
said, 'Begone! It shall be your
lot to say throughout your life,
"Do not touch me," and you will
be faced with a fate from which
there will be no escape. Now
look at your deity to which you
have become so devoted: we
shall burn it up, and then scatter
it into the sea. 98 Your only deity
is God, there is no deity but Him.
His knowledge encompasses all
things.'
99 Thus We relate to you the
history of past events, and We
have given you a reminder [the
Quran] from Us. 100 Whoever
turns away from it will bear a
heavy burden on the Day of
Judgement, 101 which they shall
bear forever. It will be a grievous
burden for them on the Day of
Judgement, 102 the Day when the
trumpet shall be blown: We shall
gather all the sinners on that
Day. Their eyes will turn blue
with terror 103 and they shall
murmur to one another, 'You
stayed only ten days on the
earth'—104 We know best what
they will say. The most perceptive
of them will say, 'You stayed
only one day.'
105 They ask you about the
mountains. Say, 'My Lord will
scatter them as dust 106 and leave
the earth level and bare, 107 with
neither hollows nor upthrust
mounds to be seen. 108 On
that Day all will follow the
summoning voice from which
there is no escape; and all voices
will be hushed before the Lord
of Mercy, and nothing will be
heard except a subdued murmur.

109 On that Day no intercession will avail, except from one who has received the sanction of the Merciful and of whose words He approves—110 He knows what is before them and what is behind them, but they cannot encompass Him with their knowledge—111 on that Day all faces shall be humbled before the Living, Self-Subsisting One. Those burdened with evil deeds will come to grief, 112 but he who does good works, being a believer, shall fear no harm nor any injustice.'

113 We have thus sent down the Quran in Arabic and given all kinds of warnings in it, so that they may fear God, or may take heed—114 exalted is God, the True King. Do not be impatient with the Quran before its revelation is completed, and say, 'My Lord, increase my knowledge.'

115 We made a covenant with Adam before you, but he forgot, and We found him lacking in constancy. 116 When We said to the angels, 'Prostrate yourselves before Adam,' they all prostrated themselves, except for Satan, who refused, 117 We said, 'Adam, [Satan] is an enemy to you and to your wife. Let him not turn you both out of Paradise and thus make you come to grief.

118 'Here you shall not go hungry or be naked, 119 you shall not thirst, nor feel the sun's heat.' 120 But Satan whispered evil to him, saying, 'Adam, shall I lead you to the tree of immortality and to a kingdom that never declines?' 121 They both ate the fruit of this tree, and so they became conscious of their nakedness and began to cover themselves with the leaves of the Garden. Thus Adam disobeyed his Lord and fell into error. 122 Then his Lord had mercy on him, accepted his repentance and guided him.

123 God said, 'Go down, both of you, from here, as enemies to one another.' If there comes to you guidance from Me, then whoever follows My guidance will not lose his way, nor will he come to grief, 124 but whoever turns away from My reminder,

will lead a straitened existence
and on the Day of Judgement We
shall raise him up blind 125 and
he will ask, ‘Lord, why have You
raised me up blind, while I
possessed sight before?’ 126 God
will say, ‘Just as Our signs came
to you and you ignored them, so
will you on this Day be ignored.’
127 Thus We shall reward the
transgressor who denies the signs
of his Lord. But the suffering of
the life to come is more terrible
and more lasting.

128 Do they not learn a lesson
from Our destruction of many
generations before them in whose
dwelling-places they walk about?
Surely in this are signs for men
of understanding. 129 But for a
pre-ordained Word from your
Lord, and a term [of respite]
already fixed, immediate
punishment would inevitably
have taken place. 130 So be patient
with anything they may say and
glorify your Lord with His praise
before the rising of the sun and
before its setting; and glorify
Him in the hours of the night
and at the beginning and end of
the day, so that you may find
comfort.

131 Do not regard with envy
the worldly benefits We have
given some of them, for with
these We seek only to test them.
The provision of your Lord is
better and more lasting. 132 Bid
your people say their prayers,
and be constant in their
observance. We demand nothing
from you. It is We who provide
for you, and the best end is that
of righteousness.

133 They say, ‘Why does he not
bring us a sign from his Lord?’
Have they not been given
sufficient proof in previous
scriptures? 134 If We had
destroyed them with a
punishment before this, they
would have surely said, ‘Our
Lord, why did you not send to us
a messenger so that we
might have followed Your
commandment before we were
humiliated and disgraced?’
135 Say, ‘Everyone is waiting; so
wait if you will. You shall know
who has followed the right path,
and who has found guidance.’

21. THE PROPHETS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] The time of reckoning has drawn near for mankind, yet they are heedless and turn away.
[2] Whenever any fresh admonition comes to them from their Lord, they listen to it, but do not take it seriously; [3] their hearts are distracted and forgetful. The wrongdoers confer together secretly, saying, 'Is not this man a mortal like you? Will you succumb to magic with your eyes open?' [4] Say, 'My Lord knows every word spoken in the heavens and on the earth. He is All Hearing, All Knowing.'

[5] Some say, 'These are his confused dreams.' Others say, 'He has invented it himself,' and yet others say, 'He is a poet. Let him bring us a sign as previous messengers did.' [6] Before them, not one of the communities which We destroyed believed either. Will these believe?

[7] The messengers We sent before you were but men whom We had sent revelations. Ask the People of the Book if you do not know this—[8] We did not give them bodies that needed no food, nor were they to live forever.
[9] Then We fulfilled Our promise to them and We saved them and those with them whom We pleased, and We destroyed those who exceeded all bounds.

[10] We have revealed a Book to you which is admonition for you. Will you not then understand? [11] How many communities of evil-doers We have destroyed, raising up other people after them. [12] When they felt Our punishment coming upon them, they began to flee from it. [13] They were told, 'Do not try to flee, but return to the comfort and luxuries in which you exulted and to the places where you lived, so that you may be questioned.' [14] They said, 'Woe to us! We were indeed wrongdoers,' [15] and this

they kept repeating until We caused them to become like a field mowed down, and reduced to ashes.

16 It was not in play that We created the heavens and the earth and all that lies between them.
17 Had We wished to find a pastime, We would surely have found it in that which is with Us, if such had been Our will. 18 We will hurl the truth at falsehood, the falsehood shall be crushed and will disappear. Woe to you for what you utter.

19 To Him belongs whosoever is in the heavens and on the earth and those that are with Him are never too proud to worship Him, nor do they grow weary; 20 they glorify Him night and day without tiring.

21 Have they taken deities from the earth who can bring the dead to life? 22 If there had been in the heavens and on the earth, other deities besides God, both the heavens and earth would be ruined. God, Lord of the throne, is far above that which they ascribe to Him. 23 None shall question Him about His works, but they shall be questioned.

24 Have they taken other deities besides Him? Say to them, 'Bring your proofs. This is the reminder of those who are with me and the reminder of those who were before me.' But most of them do not know the truth, and so they turn away from it. 25 We sent all messengers before you with this revelation: 'There is no deity save Me, so worship Me alone.'

26 They say, 'The All Merciful has taken a son!' Glory be to Him! They are only His honoured servants: 27 they do not try to speak ahead of Him, and they act at His command. 28 He knows what is before them and what is behind them, and they cannot intercede without His permission. Indeed they themselves stand in awe of Him.
29 Whoever of them should say, 'I am a deity besides Him,' shall be requited with Hell. Thus do We reward the wrongdoers.

30 Do not those who deny the truth see that the heavens and the earth were joined together and

that We then split them asunder?
And that We have made every
living thing out of water? Will
they still not believe?
31 We set firm mountains upon
the earth lest it should sway
under them, and We placed
therein passages for paths so that
they might find their way. 32 We
have made the heaven a well-
secured canopy; yet still they
turn away from Our signs. 33 It is
He who created the night and the
day, and the sun and the moon,
each gliding in its orbit.
34 We have not granted
everlasting life to any human
being before you; then if you
[Muhammad] should die, will
they live forever? 35 Every soul
shall taste death; We test you
with both good and evil
[circumstances] as a trial. To Us
you shall return.
36 When those who deny the
truth see you, they laugh at you,
saying, 'Is this the one who talks
of your deities?' Yet it is they
who deny all mention of the
Gracious One.
37 Man is a creature of haste.
Soon I will show you My signs,
but do not ask Me to hasten
them. 38 They ask, 'When will
this promise be fulfilled, if what
you say be true?' 39 If only those
who deny the truth knew the
time when they would not be
able to ward off the fire neither
from their faces nor from their
backs. They will not be helped!
40 Indeed, it will come upon them
suddenly and confound them;
and they will not be able to ward
it off, nor shall they be reprieved.
41 Other messengers have been
mocked before you, but those
who scoffed were overwhelmed
by the very thing they had
mocked.
42 Say, 'Who will save you
from the wrath of the Most
Gracious, by night and by day?'
Yet they turn away from the
remembrance of their Lord. 43 Do
they have other deities who can
defend them against Us? They
cannot even help themselves,
neither can they be aided against
Us.
44 Yet We bestowed the good
things [of life] upon their fathers

for a great length of time. But do they not see how We are shrinking their borders? Is it they who will prevail?

45 Say, 'I warn you only through the Revelation.' But the deaf can hear nothing when they are warned, 46 yet if even a breath of your Lord's punishment touched them, they would say, 'Woe to us! We were indeed wrongdoers.'

47 We shall set up scales of justice on the Day of Resurrection, so that no soul can be in the least wronged. Actions as small as a grain of mustard seed shall be weighed. We are sufficient as a reckoner.

48 We gave Moses and Aaron the criterion of right and wrong and a light and reminder for the righteous, 49 those who fear their Lord in the unseen, also dread the Hour of Judgement. 50 This is a blessed reminder that We have revealed to you. Will you then reject it?

51 Before this We gave Abraham his guidance. We knew him well. 52 When he asked his father and his people, 'What are these images to which you are so devoted?' 53 They replied, 'We found our fathers worshipping them.' 54 Abraham said, 'Indeed, you and your fathers have been clearly misguided.'

55 They said, 'Have you brought us the truth or are you jesting?' 56 Abraham replied, 'Your Lord is the Lord of the heavens and the earth, who created them, and I bear witness to that. 57 By the Lord, I will devise a plan against your deities after you have gone away and turned your backs!' 58 He broke them all into pieces, except for the biggest one of them, so that they might return to it [for enquiry].

59 'Who has done this to our deities? He must be a wrongdoer.' 60 Some said, 'We heard a young man, called Abraham, talking about them.' 61 They said, 'Then bring him here in the sight of all the people, so that they may act as witnesses.' 62 They said, 'Abraham, was it you who did this to our deities?' 63 He

answered, 'Rather this biggest
one of them did it. Ask them, if
they can speak.'
64 Then they turned to one
another and said, 'It is you
yourselves who are in the wrong,'
65 then they hung their heads,
and said, 'O Abraham! You know
they cannot speak.' 66 Abraham
said, 'So, do you worship
something instead of God that
can neither benefit you nor harm
you? 67 Shame on you and on
whatever you worship instead of
God. Can you not understand?'
68 They said, 'Burn him and
help your deities, if you are
resolved to do something.' 69 But
We said, 'Fire! Be cool and a
means of safety for Abraham.'
70 They had sought to do him
harm, but We frustrated them.
71 And We saved him and Lot
[and brought them] to a land
which We had blessed for all
people, 72 We bestowed Isaac
and then Jacob on him as an
additional boon and We made all
of them righteous. 73 We made
them leaders who guided people
by Our command. We revealed
to them the doing of good,
observance of prayer and the
giving of alms and Us alone did
they worship.
74 To Lot We gave wisdom and
knowledge and delivered him
from the city which practiced
abomination. They were indeed
a wicked people. 75 We admitted
him to Our mercy; he was a
righteous man.
76 Before him Noah cried out
to Us, and We heard his prayer.
We saved him and all his
household from a great distress.
77 We helped him against his
people who rejected Our
revelations. They were surely a
wicked people, so We drowned
them all.
78 Tell of David and Solomon
who both passed judgement on
the field into which some
people's sheep had strayed [and
grazed] at night. We bore witness
to their judgement. 79 We gave
Solomon the right understanding
of the matter, and We bestowed
wisdom and knowledge on both
of them. We caused the
mountains and the birds to

celebrate Our praises along with
David. We had the power to do
this— 80 We taught him the art of
making coats of mail for you, to
protect you in battle. Will you
then give thanks?
81 We subjected to Solomon
the stormy wind, which blew at
his behest towards the land which
We had blessed. For it is We who
have knowledge of all things—
82 We also subjected to him some
of the jinn who dived for him in
the sea and performed other
tasks; We kept a watch over
them.
83 Remember Job when he
called on his Lord saying, 'I
have been afflicted with great
distress: but You are the most
merciful of the merciful.' 84 We
heard his prayer and relieved his
suffering, We restored to him his
family, doubling their number as
an act of Our grace, and as a
reminder for the worshippers.
85 Remember Ishmael and Idris
and Dhul Kifl: they were all
patient and steadfast. 86 We
admitted them to Our mercy.
They were all righteous men.
87 Remember the man in the
whale [Jonah] when he went
away in anger, thinking We had
no power over him. But he cried
out in the darkness, 'There is no
deity but You. Glory be to You!
I was indeed wrong.' 88 So We
heard his prayer and delivered
him from sorrow. Thus shall We
deliver the true believers.
89 Remember Zachariah, when
he called out to his Lord, 'Do not
leave me heirless Lord, You are
the best of heirs.' 90 So We heard
his prayer and bestowed John
upon him and made his wife fit
to bear him a child. They used to
hasten to do good and they called
on Us in hope and fear, and they
were always humble towards Us.
91 Remember the one who
guarded her chastity; so We
breathed Our Spirit into her, and
made her and her son a sign for
all people.
92 This community of yours is
one community and I am your
Lord, so worship Me. 93 But they
divided themselves into factions,
but to Us they shall all return.
94 He who does good works while

he is a believer, shall not see his efforts disregarded: We record them all.

95 It is ordained that no nation We have destroyed shall ever rise again, 96 but when Gog and Magog are let loose and swarm down from every hillside and they spread out, [leaping across every barrier of land and sea], 97 when the true promise of God draws near, those who denied the truth will stare in amazement, crying, ‘Woe to us! We have been so heedless of this. Indeed, we were wrongdoers.’

98 You and what you worship instead of God will be fuel for hell: to it you shall all come— 99 if those had really been deities, they would not have been led there; but there they will remain forever. 100 They shall groan. They will not hear therein anything else. 101 But those who have been promised a good reward by Us will be kept far away from Hell—102 they will not hear the slightest sound of it, and they shall forever abide in a state of bliss, among everything their souls longed for. 103 The great Horror [of the Day of Judgement] shall not grieve them, and the angels will welcome them, saying, ‘This is your Day which you have been promised.’

104 On that Day We shall roll up the heavens like a scroll of parchment. As We originated the first creation, so shall We repeat it. This is a promise binding on Us. Truly, We shall fulfill it. 105 We have already written in the Psalms following the Reminder, ‘My righteous servants shall inherit the earth.’ 106 Herein, surely is a message for true worshippers.

107 We have sent you forth as a mercy to all mankind. 108 Say, ‘It has been revealed to me that your God is but One God. Will you then submit to Him?’ 109 If they turn away, say, ‘I have warned you all alike, though I do not know whether [the scourge] which you are promised is near at hand or far off. 110 God surely knows what you say openly and also knows what you conceal.

111 Nor do I know whether it may
mean a trial for you and a short
reprieve.’ 112 Say, ‘My Lord,
judge with truth. Our Lord is the
Gracious One whose help we
seek against what you utter.’

22. THE PILGRIMAGE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 O People! Fear your Lord. The
catastrophe of the Last Hour
shall be terrible indeed: 2 when
that Day comes, every suckling
mother shall forsake her infant
and every pregnant woman shall
cast her burden and everyone
will appear intoxicated, although
they are not: the punishment of
God will be severe indeed. 3 Yet
there are some who dispute about
God without having any
knowledge and they follow every
rebellious devil, 4 it has been
decreed concerning anyone
whom he befriends, that he shall
mislead him and guide him to
the punishment of the Fire.

5 O people! If you are in doubt
about the Resurrection,
remember that We first created
you from dust, then from a sperm
drop, then from clotted blood,
then a lump of flesh, both shaped
and unshaped, so that We might
manifest to you [Our power]. We
cause what We will to stay in the
womb for an appointed time,
then We bring you forth as infants
and then We cause you to grow
and reach full growth. Then,
some of you will pass away early
in life, while some of you will
reach extreme old age in which
they will know nothing of what
they once knew. You see the
earth, dead and barren, but no
sooner do We send down rain
upon it than it begins to stir and
swell, and produce every kind of
luxuriant vegetation: 6 that is
because God is the truth. It is He
who gives life to the dead and
He has the power to will

anything. 7 The Last Hour is
bound to come. There is no
doubt about it. God will raise up
those who are in their graves.

8 There are some who dispute
about God without having any
knowledge or guidance, or any
enlightening Book. 9 They turn
away arrogantly, leading people
astray from God's path. Such
men shall incur disgrace in this
life and taste the punishment of
the Fire on the Day of Judgement.
10 [God will say],'This is the
reward of your misdeeds. God is
not unjust to His servants.'

11 There are some who worship
God half-heartedly, then, if some
good befalls them, they are
content with it, but if an ordeal
befalls them, they revert to their
former ways. They lose in this
world as well in the Hereafter.
That is a clear loss.

12 He calls on, instead of God,
something that can neither harm
him, nor benefit him. That is
indeed straying far away—13 he
calls on that which would sooner
harm than help. Such a patron is
indeed evil and such a companion
is indeed evil. 14 God will admit
those who believe and act
righteously into Gardens watered
by flowing rivers. God does
whatever He wills.

15 Anyone who thinks that God
will not help him [His messenger]
in this world and the Hereafter,
let him stretch a rope up to the
sky; then let him cut it off and
see if his plan can help to remove
the cause of his anger. 16 We
have sent down the Quran as
clear evidence, and surely God
guides whom He will.

17 God will judge between the
believers, the Jews, the Sabaeans,
the Christians, the Magians and
the polytheists on the Day of
Judgement. Surely God is witness
to everything.

18 Do you not see that whoever
is in the heavens and whoever is
on the earth, as well as the sun
and the moon, and the stars and
the mountains, and the trees and
the beasts and many human
beings—all submit to God? But
there are many who have become
deserving of punishment.
Whoever God disgraces, will

have no one to honour him.
Surely, God does what He wills.
19 These two groups, [the
believers and those who deny
the truth], dispute concerning
their Lord. Those who deny the
truth will have garments of fire
cut out for them; and boiling
water will be poured down over
their heads, 20 anything in their
stomachs as well as their skins
will be melted by it. 21 There will
be maces of iron for them;
22 whenever, in their anguish they
seek to escape from Hell, they
will be driven back into it, and
they will be told, ‘Taste the
punishment of Hell.’
23 God will admit those who
believe and do good deeds to
Gardens watered by flowing
rivers; there they will be given
bracelets of gold and pearls to
wear and their clothing will be
of silk. 24 For they were guided
to purity of speech. And they
were guided to the path of the
Glorious Lord.
25 As for those who deny the
truth and debar others from God’s
path and from the Sacred Mosque
which We set up for all people,
natives and strangers alike, and
all who seek to profane it by
evil-doing—We shall make them
taste a painful punishment.
26 We assigned to Abraham
the site of the House, saying,
‘Do not associate with Me
anything and purify My House
for those who circumambulate
[the Kabah] and those who stand
upright, and those who bow and
prostrate themselves.’
27 Call mankind to the
Pilgrimage. They will come to
you, on foot, and on every kind
of lean camel, by every distant
track 28 so that they may witness
its benefit for them and, on the
appointed days may utter the
name of God over the cattle He
has provided for them. Then eat
their flesh, and feed the distressed
and the needy—29 then let the
pilgrims purify themselves and
fulfil their vows and perform the
circumambulation of the Ancient
House.
30 Such is God’s commandment.
Whoever honours that which is
declared sacred by God may be
sure that it counts for good in the
sight of his Lord. Livestock is

lawful for you, except that which
has already been explicitly
forbidden. Then shun the
abomination of the deities and
shun all falsehood.

31 Devote yourselves to God,
not associating any partners
with Him. Whoever associates
anything with God is like one
who falls from heaven and is
snatched by the birds or carried
away by the wind to a distant place.
32 Thus it is. He who honours
the symbols set up by God shows
the piety of his heart. 33 You may
benefit from the animals for an
appointed time. Then they must
be sacrificed at the Ancient House.
34 For every people We have
appointed rites of sacrifice, so
that they may pronounce the
name of God over the cattle
which He has provided for them.
Your God is One God; surrender
yourselves to Him; and give good
news to the humble 35 whose
hearts are filled with awe at the
mention of God; who endure
adversity with fortitude, say their
prayers regularly and spend out
of what We have given them.

36 We have appointed for you
the sacrificial camels as one of
the symbols set up by God, in
which there is much good for
you. So invoke God's name over
them as you line them up for
slaughter, and when they
have fallen down dead, feed
yourselves and feed the needy—
those who do not ask as well as
those who do. We have thus
subjected them to you so that
you may be grateful. 37 Their
flesh and blood do not reach
God: it is your piety that reaches
Him. Thus God has subjected
them to you, so that you may
glorify Him for the guidance He
has given you. Give glad tidings
to those who do good.

38 God will surely defend the
believers. God does not love the
perfidious and the ungrateful.
39 Permission to fight is granted
to those who are attacked,
because they have been
wronged—God indeed has the
power to help them—40 they are
those who have been driven out
of their homes unjustly, only
because they said, 'Our Lord is

God.' If God did not repel the
aggression of some people by
means of others, cloisters and
churches and synagogues and
mosques, wherein the name of
God is much invoked, would
surely be destroyed. God will
surely help him who helps His
cause—God is indeed powerful
and mighty.

41 [They are] those who, if We
established them in the land,
would say their prayers regularly
and pay the *zakat* and enjoin
good and forbid evil. The final
outcome of all affairs rests with
God.

42 If your opponents deny
you, remember that, before
them, the people of Noah
and the tribes of 'Ad
and Thamud denied their
messengers likewise. 43 So did
the people of Abraham and the
people of Lot, 44 and the
inhabitants of Midian also
charged their prophets with
falsehood. Moses was also
rejected. I gave respite to
those who denied the truth, but
then I seized them. Consider
then, how terrible My repudiation
of them was.

45 How many a town We
destroyed which was given to
wrongdoing, so that its roofs fell
down, and how many a well is
deserted and how many a lofty
castle is in ruins. 46 Have these
people not travelled through the
land to make their hearts
understand and let their ears
hear; the truth is that it is not the
eyes that are blind but the hearts
that are in the bosoms that are
blinded.

47 They ask you to hasten the
punishment; God will never go
back on His promise. A Day with
your Lord is like a thousand
years in your reckoning. 48 To
how many a town We gave
respite while it was given to
wrongdoing. Then I seized it. To
Me all things shall return.

49 Say, 'O people, I am sent
only to give you clear warning.'
50 Those who believe and do
good deeds shall be forgiven and
shall receive an honourable
provision. 51 Whereas those who
strive against Our signs, seeking

to defeat their purpose, shall be the inmates of the Fire.

[52] Whenever We sent any messenger or prophet before you, and he recited anything [of Our revelation], Satan tampered with it. But God abrogates Satan's interjections and then He firmly reaffirms His revelations. God is all knowing and all wise. [53] He makes Satan's suggestions a trial for those whose hearts are diseased or hardened—and, surely, the wrongdoers are far gone in error—[54] so that those who are given knowledge may realize that this is the truth from your Lord and thus believe in it, and so that in their hearts they may humbly submit to Him. God will surely guide the faithful to a straight path.

[55] Those who deny the truth will continue in doubt until the [Last] Hour suddenly comes upon them or the scourge of the woeful Day descends upon them. [56] On that Day all control will belong to God. He will judge between them. Those who believe and do good deeds shall enter the Gardens of Bliss, [57] but those who deny the truth and deny Our signs will receive a humiliating punishment.

[58] As for those who left their homes for the cause of God and then were slain or died, God will give them a generous provision. Surely God is the Best of Providers. [59] He will admit them to a place with which they shall be well-pleased. For God is all knowing and most forbearing.

[60] Thus it shall be. As for one who retaliates to the same extent as he has suffered and then is again wronged, God will surely come to his aid. God is merciful and forgiving.

[61] That is because God makes the night pass into the day and makes the day pass into the night. God is all hearing and all seeing. [62] That is because God is the Truth while anything they invoke besides God is sheer falsehood. God is the Sublime, the Great One.

[63] Have you not seen how God sends down water from sky, whereupon the earth becomes

green? God is unfathomable, and all aware; [64] all that is in the heavens and on the earth belongs to Him. Surely, God is self-sufficient and praiseworthy.

[65] Do you not see, how God has subjected everything on the earth to you, and the ships that sail on the sea by His command. He holds back the sky from falling down on the earth, except with His permission. God is most compassionate and most merciful to mankind—[66] it is He who gave you life. Then He will cause you to die. Then He will give you life again. Surely, man is most ungrateful.

[67] We have appointed for every community ways of worship to observe. Let them not dispute with you on this matter. Call them to the path of your Lord—for surely, you are rightly guided—[68] if they should dispute with you, then say, 'God is well aware of what you do.' [69] On the Day of Resurrection, God will judge between you regarding your differences. [70] Do you not know that God has knowledge of what the heavens and the earth contain? All is recorded in a Book; all this is easy for God.

[71] Yet instead of God, they worship something for which God has sent no authority and about which they have no knowledge. The wrongdoers will have no helper. [72] Whenever Our clear revelations are recited to them, you will recognize the disgust on the faces of those who deny the truth. It is almost as if they are going to attack those who recite Our message to them. Say, 'Shall I tell you of something worse than this? It is the Fire that God has promised to those who are bent on denying the truth. What an evil destination!'

[73] People, here is an illustration. So listen carefully. Surely, those whom you invoke other than God cannot create even a fly, even if they were all to combine together to do it, and if a fly should snatch anything away from them, they cannot recover it from it. Both are indeed weak, the seeker and the sought. [74] No just estimate have they

made of God. Surely God is
powerful and mighty.

75 God selects messengers
from both angels and from
mankind; God is all hearing and
all seeing: 76 He knows what lies
ahead of them and what is
behind them. All things shall
return to God.

77 You who are true believers,
kneel and prostrate yourselves,
worship your Lord and do good
works, so that you may succeed.
78 Strive for the cause of God as
it behoves you to strive for it. He
has chosen you and laid on
you no burden in the matter
of your religion, the faith of
Abraham your forefather. In
this, as in former scriptures
He has given you the name
of Muslims, so that the
Messenger may be a witness
over you, and so that you may be
witnesses over mankind.
Therefore, say your prayers
regularly and pay the *zakat* and
hold fast to God. He is your
master. An excellent master and
an excellent helper!

23. THE BELIEVERS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Successful indeed are the
believers; 2 those who are humble
in their prayer; 3 those who turn
away from all that is frivolous;
4 those who pay the *zakat*; 5 those
who safeguard their chastity
6 except with their wives, and
what their right hands possess—
for then they are free from blame,
7 but those who seek to go beyond
that are transgressors—8 those
who are faithful to their trusts
and promises; 9 and those who
attend to their prayers; 10 these
are the heirs of Paradise 11 they
shall abide in it forever.

12 We created man from an
essence of clay, 13 then We placed
him as a drop of fluid in a safe
place, 14 then We developed that

drop into a clinging form, and We developed that form into a lump of flesh, and We developed that lump into bones, and clothed the bones with flesh. Then We brought him into being as a new creation—glory be to God, the best of creators—[15] after this you shall surely die. [16] Then you will be raised up again on the Resurrection Day.

[17] We have created seven paths above you; We have never been unmindful of Our creation. [18] We sent down water from the sky in due measure and lodged it in the earth—but if We please, We have the power to take it away—[19] We have produced palm-groves and vineyards for you, in which there are abundant fruits for you; and you eat these, [20] also a tree growing on Mount Sinai which produces oil and a condiment for those who eat it. [21] You have a lesson in livestock. We provide you with drink from what is in their bellies, and you have many other benefits from them; some of them you eat, [22] and you ride on them as you do in ships.

[23] We sent Noah to his people, and he said, 'My people, worship God; you have no other deity except Him. Will you not fear Him?' [24] The leaders of his people who denied the truth, said, 'He is only a human being like yourselves who wants to make himself superior to you. If God had wished, He would have sent down angels. We never heard about this from our forefathers. [25] He is only a madman, so, as far as he is concerned wait for a while.'

[26] Noah said, 'My Lord, help me! for they have rejected me,' [27] then We revealed Our will to him: 'Build the Ark under Our watchful eye according to Our instructions. When Our command comes, and waters gush up out of the earth, take on board pairs of every species and members of your household, except for any of them on whom sentence has already been passed—do not plead with Me for those who have done wrong: they shall be drowned.

[28] When you and all your

followers have settled in the
Ark, say, “Praise be to God who
has delivered us from a wicked
people,” [29] and say, “My Lord,
let me land with Your blessing in
a blessed landing place. You
alone can provide the best
landings”.’ [30] Surely there are
clear signs in that. In this way
We put people to the test.

[31] Then We raised another
generation after them, [32] and sent
a messenger to them from among
themselves: ‘Worship God alone.
You have no deity other than
Him. Will you not then fear
God?’ [33] But the leaders of his
people who denied the truth and
denied the Meeting in the
Hereafter, because We had
granted them ease and plenty in
their worldly life, said, ‘This is
only a human being like
yourselves—he eats what you
eat, and drinks what you drink—
[34] if you obey a human being just
like yourselves, then you will
surely be lost.

[35] Does he promise you that
when you die and have become
dust and bones, that you will be
brought forth again? [36] What you
are promised is indeed far-
fetched. [37] There exists only our
present life: we die and we live
[but once], and shall never be
raised up again. [38] He is only a
man who has invented a lie
about God, and we are not going
to believe him!’

[39] The messenger said, ‘My
Lord, help me, for they have
rejected me.’ [40] God said, ‘Before
long they will be filled with
regret.’ [41] The blast justly struck
them and We reduced them to
rubble. Away with such wicked
people!

[42] Then We raised up other
generations after them—[43] no
community can advance or
postpone its appointed time—
[44] then We sent Our messengers
in succession. Every time their
messenger came to a people,
they rejected him. So We
destroyed them one after the
other, and let them become mere
tales. So away with the people
who will not believe!

[45] Then We sent Moses and his
brother Aaron with Our signs

and clear authority 46 to Pharaoh
and his courtiers, but they
behaved insolently, for they were
an arrogant people. 47 They said,
‘Are we to believe in two human
beings like ourselves, while their
people are subject to us?’ 48 So
they rejected them both, and
became those who were
destroyed. 49 We gave Moses the
Book so that they might be guided.

50 We made the son of Mary
and his mother a sign and gave
them shelter on a peaceful
hillside watered by a fresh spring.

51 Messengers, eat what is
wholesome and do good deeds:
I am well aware of what you do.
52 Your religion is but one
religion—and I am your only Lord,
therefore, fear Me.

53 Yet they divided themselves
into factions, each rejoicing in
what they had. 54 So leave them
in their bewilderment for a while.
55 Do they imagine that the wealth
and children We have provided
56 have no other purpose except
to help them in acquiring material
benefits? No indeed. But they do
not understand.

57 Those who tremble with fear
of their Lord; 58 and believe in
His messages 59 and do not
ascribe partners to Him; 60 and
those who give to others what
has been bestowed upon them
with their hearts trembling at the
thought that they must return to
their Lord; 61 it is they who vie
with one another in doing good
works and shall be the foremost
in doing so. 62 We charge no soul
with more than it can bear. We
have a record which clearly
shows the truth and they will not
be wronged.

63 But their hearts are heedless
of this. Moreover, there are other
deeds besides this which they
do. 64 But then when We seize
the affluent among them, they
will cry out for help. 65 Do not
cry out for help this day, for
surely you shall not be helped by
Us. 66 My revelations were recited
to you, but you turned your backs
67 in arrogance, as if you were
abandoning a story-teller.

68 Have they not pondered over
the word of God? Has something
come to them that did not come

to their forefathers? [69] Or do
they not recognize their
Messenger, and so deny him?
[70] Do they say he is possessed?
Rather he has brought them the
truth, but most of them are averse
to the truth. [71] If truth had
followed their whims and desires,
heavens and earth and all that
lives in them would have been
brought to ruin. Rather We have
brought them their Reminder.
Yet they keep avoiding their
Reminder.

[72] Or are you asking them for
any reward? But the reward of
your Lord is the best, for He is
the Best of Providers, [73] and,
most surely, you are calling them
to a straight path. [74] But those
who do not believe in the
Hereafter have indeed deviated
from that path.

[75] Even if We showed them
mercy and relieved them of their
afflictions, they would still
persist in their transgression,
wandering blindly. [76] We seized
them with the punishment, but
they did not surrender to their
Lord, nor will they humble
themselves [77] until We open
before them a gate of harsh
punishment and then they will
be dumbfounded.

[78] It is He who gave you ears,
eyes and hearts, yet how seldom
you are grateful![a] [79] He it is who
has multiplied you on the earth
and to Him you shall all be
gathered: [80] He is the One who
gives life and causes death and
He controls the alternation of
night and day. Will you not then
understand?

---

[a] In this universe the human being is a special creation who has been given the exceptional powers of hearing, seeing and thinking. These capacities have been given to man for a special purpose, namely, to understand the reality of life. He should use his ears to hear the voice of Truth. With his eyes he should see the signs of God that are spread all around him. He should use his thinking powers for an in-depth study of all these things. This, in reality, is the way of thankfulness of the ears, the eyes and the heart. Those who do not give evidence of such thankfulness in this world risk losing their entitlement to these gifts forever.

81 But they say the same as the
ancients said, 82 ‘When we have
died and become dust and bones,
will we be raised up again?
83 We and our forefathers were
promised this before. This is
nothing but fables of the
ancients.’

84 Say, ‘To whom do the earth
and all therein belong? Tell me,
if you have any knowledge?’
85 They will say, ‘To God.’ Say,
‘So will you not pay heed? 86 Say,
‘Who is the Lord of the seven
heavens, and of the Glorious
Throne?’ 87 They will say, ‘They
belong to God.’ Say, ‘So do you
not fear Him?’ 88 Say, ‘In whose
hands lies sovereignty over all
things, protecting all, while none
can seek protection against Him?
Tell me, if you have any
knowledge.’ 89 They will say, ‘All
this belongs to God.’ Say to them,
‘How are you then deluded?’

90 We have revealed to them
the truth. But they are certainly
liars. 91 God has not taken to
Himself a son, nor is there
any other deity besides Him;
otherwise, each god would have
walked away with what he had
created. They would surely have
tried to overcome one another.
Glory be to God, above all that
they ascribe to Him. 92 Knower
of the unseen and the visible; He
is exalted above all that which
they associate with Him.

93 Pray, ‘Lord, if you would
show me that [the punishment]
of which they have been warned,
94 then do not place me, Lord,
with the wrongdoers.’ 95 We
certainly have the power to show
you what they have been warned
about.

96 Repel evil with what is
best—We are well aware of the
things they say—97 and say, ‘My
Lord, I seek refuge with You
from the prompting of the devils.
98 I seek refuge with You, Lord,
lest they should come near me.’

99 When death comes to any of
them, he says, ‘My Lord, send
me back 100 so that I may do
good works in the world I have
left behind.’ Never! It is indeed
but a meaningless word that he
utters. A barrier shall stand
behind such people till the Day

they are raised up again. 101 When
the trumpet is blown, on that
Day there will be no ties of
relationship between them;
neither will they ask about one
another: 102 then those whose
scales weigh heavy with good
works will be successful. 103 But
those whose scales weigh light
will have ruined their souls; in
Hell will they abide. 104 The Fire
will scorch their faces and they
will abide therein with their faces
distorted.

105 Were not My messages
recited to you and did you not
reject them? 106 They will answer,
'Lord, misfortune overcame us
and we became an erring people.
107 Lord, deliver us from Hell.
Then, if we revert again, we
shall definitely be wrongdoers.'
108 God will say, 'Stay there and
do not speak to Me. 109 Among
My servants, there were those
who said, "Lord, We believe, so
forgive us and have mercy on us.
You are the best one to show
mercy." 110 But you made a
laughing stock of them to the
point where it made you forget
My remembrance; and you went
on laughing at them. 111 I have
rewarded them this Day for their
steadfastness, and it is they who
have triumphed.'

112 He will ask, 'How many
years did you stay on earth?'
113 They will say, 'We stayed a
day or part of a day. Ask those
who have kept count.' 114 He
will say, 'You only stayed for a
little while, if only you knew.

115 'Do you imagine that We
created you without any purpose
and that you would not be
brought back to Us?' 116 Then,
exalted be God, the true King,
there is no deity except Him, the
Lord of the Glorious Throne.
117 He, who invokes another
deity along with God—a deity
of whose divinity he has no
proof—will be brought to
account by his Lord. Certainly,
those who deny the truth shall
never prosper. 118 Say, 'Lord,
forgive us and have mercy.
You are the best of those who
show mercy.'

24. LIGHT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 This is a chapter which We have revealed and which We have made obligatory; We have sent down clear revelations in it, so that you may take heed. 2 Flog the adulteress and the adulterer, each one of them, with a hundred lashes. Let no pity for them cause you to disobey God, if you truly believe in God and the Last Day; and let their punishment be witnessed by a number of believers. 3 The adulterer shall marry only an adulteress or a polytheist woman, and an adulteress shall marry only an adulterer or a polytheist man; such marriages are forbidden for believers.

4 Those who defame chaste women, but cannot produce four witnesses, shall be given eighty lashes. Do not accept their testimony ever after, for they are transgressors, 5 save those who afterwards repent and make amends, for truly God is forgiving and merciful.

6 One who accuses his wife and has no witnesses except himself shall swear four times by God that his charge is true, 7 and the fifth time, that God's curse may be upon him if he is telling a lie. 8 The wife shall receive no punishment, if she bears witness four times in the name of God that her husband has lied 9 and, a fifth time that God's wrath will be upon her if he is telling the truth. 10 Were it not for God's grace and His mercy upon you, [you would have come to grief] and God is wise, acceptor of repentance.

11 Those who brought up that slander were a band from among you. Do not regard it as a misfortune, for it is good for you. Every one of them shall be held to account for the sin he has committed; and he who took the greater part

in it shall have a terrible
punishment.
12 When you heard of it, why
did not the believing men and
believing women think well of
their own people, and say, ‘This
is a manifest slander?’ 13 Why
did they not produce four
witnesses? If they could not
produce any witnesses, they were
indeed liars in the sight of God!
14 Had it not been for the grace
of God and His mercy on you in
this world and the Hereafter, a
terrible punishment would have
afflicted you for your plunging
headlong into slander. 15 When
you were spreading it with your
tongues and saying with your
mouths things of which you had
no knowledge, you considered it
to be a trivial matter, but, in
God’s sight, it was very serious.
16 When you heard it, why did
you not say, ‘It is not right for us
to speak of this. God forbid!
This is a monstrous slander.’
17 God warns you never to
repeat the like of it again, if you
are true believers. 18 God
explains the commandments
to you. God is all knowing
and wise.
19 Those who desire that
indecencies should spread among
the believers, will have a painful
chastisement in this world and
the Hereafter. God knows, and
you do not know. 20 But for the
grace of God and His mercy
upon you, and were not God
compassionate and merciful,
[you would have come to grief].
21 O you who believe, do not
follow in the footsteps of Satan,
and whoever follows in the
footsteps of Satan should know
that he enjoins only indecency
and evil. But for the grace of
God and His mercy upon you,
not one of you would ever be
purified; but God purifies whom
He pleases. God is all hearing
and all knowing.
22 Let not those who are
possessed of means and plenty
among you resolve to withhold
their bounty from their kindred
and the needy and those who
have migrated from their homes
in the cause of God. Let them
forgive and overlook. Do you

not wish God to forgive you? God is forgiving and merciful.

23 Truly, those who accuse chaste, unwary, believing women are cursed in this world and the Hereafter. For them awaits a terrible chastisement. 24 On the Day when their own tongues, hands and feet shall bear witness against them about what they did—25 on that Day God will justly requite them—and they will realize that God is the truth, that makes all things manifest.

26 Corrupt women are for corrupt men, and corrupt men are for corrupt women; good women are for good men and good men are for good women. The latter are absolved from anything they may say; forgiveness and an honourable provision await them.

27 Believers, do not enter other people's houses until you have asked their owners' permission and greeted them. That will be the better for you, so that you may be heedful. 28 If you find no one at home, do not go in until permission has been granted you. If you are told to go away, then go away. That is more proper for you. God knows well what you do. 29 There is nothing wrong in your entering uninhabited houses if that serves a useful purpose: God knows all that you do openly, and all that you would conceal.

30 Tell believing men to lower their gaze and remain chaste. That is purer for them. God is aware of what they do.

31 Say to believing women that they should lower their gaze and remain chaste and not to reveal their adornments—save what is normally apparent thereof, and they should fold their shawls over their bosoms. They can only reveal their adornments to their husbands or their fathers or their husbands' fathers, or their sons or their husbands' sons or their brothers or their brothers' sons or their sisters' sons or maidservants or those whom their right hands possess or their male attendants who have no sexual desire or children who still have no carnal knowledge of women. Nor should they swing their legs

to draw attention to their hidden
ornaments. Believers, turn to
God, every one of you, so that
you may prosper.
32 Marry those among you who
are single, and those of your
male and female slaves who are
fit [for marriage]. If they are
poor, God will provide for them
from His bounty, for God's
bounty is infinite and He is all
knowing. 33 Those who do not
have the means to marry should
keep themselves chaste until God
grants them enough out of His
bounty. If any of your slaves
desire a deed of freedom, write it
out for them, if you find any
promise in them, and give them
some of the wealth God has
given you. Do not force your
[slave] maids into prostitution,
in order to enrich yourself, when
they wish to preserve their
chastity. Yet if anyone forces
them, once they have been
forced, God will be forgiving
and merciful to them. 34 We have
sent down clear revelations to
you and the example of those
who passed away before you and
an admonition for the God-
fearing.
35 God is the light of the
heavens and the earth. His light
may be compared to a niche
containing a lamp, the lamp
inside a crystal of star-like
brilliance lit from a blessed olive
tree, neither of the east nor of the
west.[a] The [luminous] oil is as if
ready to burn without even
touching it. Light upon light;
God guides to His light whom
He will. God draws such
comparisons for mankind; God
has full knowledge of everything.
36 [They worship] in the
houses which God has allowed
to be raised for the remembrance
of His name, morning and
evening, 37 people who are
not distracted by trade
or commerce from the

[a] This is a metaphor with many layers of meaning. 'Light' symbolizes the guidance of God Almighty. 'Niche' is man's heart and 'lamp' is faith (*iman*), sheltered in that niche. The image is elaborated by yet two more points of reference: 'crystal of star-like brilliance' and 'luminous oil'.

remembrance of God and the observance of prayer and the payment of the *zakat*—fearing a Day when hearts and eyes will be convulsed, 38 so that God may reward them according to the best of their deeds and give them more out of His bounty. God provides for whoever He wills without measure.

39 As for those who deny the truth, their works are like a mirage in a desert. The thirsty traveller thinks it to be water, but when he comes near, he finds it to be nothing. He finds God there, who pays him his account in full. God is swift in His reckoning. 40 Or like darkness on a deep ocean covered by waves billowing over waves and overcast with clouds: darkness upon darkness. If he stretches out his hand, he can scarcely see it. Indeed, the man from whom God withholds His light shall find no light at all.

41 [Prophet], do you not see that all those who are in the heavens and on earth praise God, as do the birds with wings outstretched? Each knows his own mode of prayer and glorification: God has full knowledge of all that they do. 42 To God belongs the kingdom of the heavens and the earth, and to God shall all things return.

43 Do you not see how God drives the clouds, then joins them together, then piles them into layers and then you see the rain pour from their midst? He sends down from the skies mountainous masses [of clouds] charged with hail, and He makes it fall on whom He will, and turns it away from whom He pleases. The flash of His lightning may well-nigh take away the sight. 44 God alternates the night and the day—truly, in this there is a lesson for men of insight.

45 God created every creature from water. Some crawl upon their bellies, others walk on two legs, and others walk on four. God creates what He pleases. He has power over all things. 46 We have sent down revelations clearly showing the truth. God

guides whom He wills to the
straight path.

47 They say, ‘We believe in
God and in the Messenger, and
we obey.’ But then, even after
that a group of them will turn
away. Those are surely not
believers 48 and when they are
called to God and His Messenger
so that he may judge between
them, some of them turn away.
49 But if the truth happens to be
to their liking, they are quite
willing to accept it! 50 Is there a
sickness in their hearts, or are
they full of doubt? Or do they
fear that God and His Messenger
will be unjust to them? The truth is
that they themselves are wrongdoers.

51 The response of the
believers, when they are called
to God and His Messenger in
order that he may judge between
them, is only, ‘We hear and we
obey.’ It is they who will prosper:
52 those who obey God and His
Messenger, and fear God, and
are mindful of their duty to Him,
are the ones who will triumph.

53 They swear firm oaths by
God that if you command them
to march forth, they will obey
you. Say, ‘Do not swear: your
obedience, not your oaths, will
count. God is well aware of all
your actions.’ 54 Obey God and
obey the Messenger. If you turn
away, then he is responsible for
what he is charged with and you
are responsible for what you are
charged with. If you obey him,
you will be rightly guided. The
Messenger is responsible only for
delivering the message clearly.

55 God has promised to those
among you who believe and do
good works that He will surely
grant them power in the land as
He granted to those who were
before them; and that He will
surely establish for them their
religion which He has chosen
for them. He will cause their
state of fear to be replaced by a
sense of security. Let them
worship Me and associate no
other with Me. Whoever still
chooses to deny the truth is truly
rebellious.

56 Attend to your prayers and
pay the *zakat* and obey the
Messenger, so that you may be

shown mercy. 57 Do not think that those who deny the truth can frustrate Our plan on earth; their abode shall be Hell; and it is indeed an evil resort.

58 Believers, let [even] those whom you rightfully possess, and those who are under age ask your leave on three occasions when they come in to see you: before the morning prayer, when you have taken off your garments in the heat of noon, and after the evening prayer. These are the three occasions for your privacy. At other times, there is nothing blameworthy if you or they go around visiting one another. Thus God makes clear to you His revelations: God is all knowing and wise. 59 When your children have reached the age of puberty, let them still ask permission as their elders do. Thus God expounds to you His revelations: God is all knowing and wise. 60 There is no blame on elderly women who are past the age of marriage, if they take off their outer clothing, without revealing their adornments. But it would be better for them to guard themselves. God is all hearing, all knowing.

61 There is no harm if the blind, the lame, the sick or you yourselves eat in your own houses, or in the houses of your fathers, or mothers, or brothers, or sisters, or paternal uncles, or paternal aunts, or maternal uncles, or maternal aunts, or in those that you are in charge of or in the house of a friend. There is no objection to your eating together or separately. But when you enter houses, salute one another with a greeting of peace, a greeting from your Lord full of blessings and purity. Thus does God expound to you His commandments, so that you may understand.

62 They only are true believers who believe in God and His Messenger. When they are with him on some matter of common concern, they should not depart until they have asked him for permission to do so. Those who ask you for such permission are the ones who truly believe in God and His Messenger. When

they ask you for permission to attend to some affair of their own, then grant it to whoever you please and seek forgiveness from God for them. God is forgiving and merciful.

[63] Do not treat being called by the Messenger like being called by one another. God knows those of you who slip away on some pretext. Let those who go against his order beware lest some affliction befall them or they receive a painful punishment.
[64] Surely, whatever is in the heavens and on the earth belongs to God. God knows well what condition you are in. On the Day when they return to Him, He will declare to them all that they have done. God has full knowledge of all things.

25. THE CRITERION

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] Blessed be He who has revealed the criterion [the Quran] to His servant that he may warn the
nations. [2] Sovereign of the heavens and the earth, who has begotten no children and who has no partner in His sovereignty, it is He who has created all things and measured them out
precisely. [3] Yet they have taken, besides Him, deities who create nothing and are themselves created, and who have no power to harm, or benefit themselves and who control neither death, nor life, nor resurrection.

[4] Those who deny the truth say, 'This is only a forgery of his own invention in which others have helped him.' What they say
is unjust and false. [5] They say, 'It is just fables of the ancients, which he has had written down. They are dictated to him morning
and evening.' [6] Say to them, 'It has been revealed by Him who knows every secret that is in the heavens and on the earth. Truly,

He is most forgiving and most merciful.'

7 They say, 'What kind of a messenger is this who eats food and walks about in the market-places? Why has no angel been sent down with him to warn us?' 8 Or a treasure should have been sent down to him, or he should have had a garden from which to eat.' The wrongdoers say, 'You are surely following a man who is bewitched.' 9 Observe what kind of things they attribute to you. They have surely gone astray and cannot find the right way again.

10 Blessed is He who, if He please, can give you better things than that; gardens watered by flowing streams, and palaces too. 11 They deny the Hour. For those who deny that Hour, We have prepared a blazing fire. 12 When it sees them from afar, they will hear its raging and roaring. 13 When they are thrown into a narrow space, chained together, they will plead for death. 14 But they will be told, 'Do not call today for one death, call for many deaths!' 15 Say, 'Which is better, this or the Paradise of immortality which the righteous have been promised? It is their recompense and their destination.' 16 Abiding there forever, they shall find in it all that they desire. This is a binding promise which your Lord has made.

17 On the Day He gathers them all together with those they worship besides Him, He will say, 'Was it you who misled My servants, or did they stray away by themselves?' 18 They will answer, 'Hallowed be You! It was not proper for us to choose any guardian other than You. But You gave them and their fathers the comforts of this life, so that they forgot Your reminder and thus brought destruction upon themselves.' 19 [God will say], 'Now, they have given the lie to all your assertions, and you can neither ward off [your punishment] nor obtain any help.' For, whoever of you has committed evil, shall be caused by Us to taste great suffering!'

[20] We never sent any
messengers before you who did
not eat food and walk in the
market-place. We make some of
you a means of trial for others, to
see whether you are steadfast.
Your Lord is all seeing.

[21] Those who do not expect a
meeting with Us say, ‘Why are
angels not sent down to us?’ Or
‘Why do we not see our Lord?’
Surely, they are too proud of
themselves and have greatly
exceeded all bounds. [22] There
will be no good tidings for the
guilty on the day they see the
angels; and they will cry out,
‘Keep away, keep away!’ [23] and
We shall take all that they did
and turn it into scattered dust.
[24] The inhabitants of the Garden
will have the best residence and
the finest lodging on that Day.

[25] On a Day when the sky will
split open with its clouds and the
angels are sent down rank upon
rank, [26] true sovereignty on that
Day will belong to the Gracious
One, and it will be a hard Day for
those who deny the truth. [27] On
that Day, the wrongdoer will bite
his hands and say, ‘Would that I
had walked in the Messenger’s
path! [28] Oh, would that I had
never chosen such a one for my
companion—[29] he made me
forgetful of the warning after it
had reached me. Satan is man’s
great betrayer.’ [30] The Messenger
will say, ‘Lord, my people did
indeed discard the Quran,’ [31] thus
did We assign to every prophet
an enemy from among the
sinners; your Lord is sufficient
as a guide and a helper.

[32] Those who deny the truth
say, ‘Why was the Quran not
sent down to him in a single
revelation?’ We sent it in this
manner, so that We might
strengthen your heart. We gave it to
you in gradual revelation. [33] Every
time they raise an objection, We
will bring you the truth and the
best of explanations. [34] Those
who will be dragged headlong
into Hell shall have an evil place
to dwell in, for they have strayed
far from the right path.

[35] We gave Moses the Book,
and appointed his brother Aaron
as his supporter. [36] Then We said,

‘Go together to the people who
have denied Our signs.’ We
utterly destroyed them! 37 We
drowned the people of Noah
also when they rejected their
messengers and We made them
an example to all mankind. We
have prepared a painful
punishment for the wrongdoers,
38 to ‘Ad, and Thamud, and the
people of al-Rass, and as We did
for the many a generation
between them. 39 To each of them
We gave warnings and each of
them We destroyed completely.
40 Indeed they must have come
upon the town on which an evil
rain had poured down. Did they
not see it? Yet they have no faith
in the Resurrection.

41 Whenever they see you they
only make a mockery of you—
‘Is this the one God has sent as
His Messenger? 42 Indeed, he
would well-nigh have led us
astray from our deities, had we
not been [so] steadfastly attached
to them!’ When they behold the
punishment, they shall realize
who strayed furthest from the
right path.

43 Have you seen him who has
taken his own desire to be his
god? Can you be a guardian over
him? 44 Do you think most of
them can hear or understand?
They are like cattle. Indeed, they
are even more astray.

45 Have you not seen how your
Lord lengthens the shadows?
Had He pleased, He could have
made them constant; then We
placed the sun as an indicator for
them, 46 then We withdrew it to
Us, a gradual withdrawal. 47 It is
He who made the night a mantle
for you, and sleep for repose;
and made the day a time for
rising.[a] 48 It is He who sends the
winds as heralds of His mercy
and We send down pure water
from the sky, 49 so that We
may bring life to a dead land;
and slake the thirst of Our

---

[a] There are many lessons in this system of the earth. As the light of day necessarily follows the darkness of night, so also is it necessary that untruth be followed by Truth. While waking up in the morning after sleeping at night symbolizes resurrection in the life after death.

creation; cattle and men, in
great numbers.
[50] We have explained it to them
in diverse ways, so that they may
take heed, but most persist in their
ingratitude. [51] If We had so wished,
We might have sent a warner into
every town, [52] so do not yield to
those who deny the truth, but strive
with the utmost strenuousness
by means of this [Quran, to
convey its message to them].
[53] It is He who released the
two bodies of flowing water, one
sweet and fresh and the other
salty and bitter, and set up an
insurmountable barrier between
them. [54] It is He who has created
human beings from water and
He has granted them the ties of
blood as well as marriage. Your
Lord is all powerful.
[55] Yet they worship besides
God that which can neither
benefit them nor harm them.
One who denies the truth is
a helper [of evil] against his
Lord. [56] We have sent you only
as a bearer of glad tidings and as
a warner. [57] Say, 'I do not ask you
for any recompense for this except
that anyone who so wishes should
take the right path to his Lord.'
[58] Put your trust in the One
who is the Ever-Living [God],
who never dies, and glorify Him
with His praise. He is fully aware
of the sins of His servants; [59] it is
He who created the heavens and
the earth and all that is between
them in six Days [periods], then
settled Himself on the throne—
the Gracious One. Ask any
informed person about Him.[a]
[60] When they are told, 'Prostrate
yourselves before the Gracious
One,' they ask, 'Who is this
Gracious One? Shall we prostrate
ourselves before whatever you
will?' This increases their aversion.
[61] Exalted is He who put
constellations in the heavens, a
radiant lamp and an illuminating

[a] Here 'six Days' means six Days of God. In the language of human beings it may be called six stages or six periods. The Creation of the Universe in six stages indicates that it was done in a well planned manner. Whatever is brought into existence on the basis of a plan and a specific arrangement cannot be futile.

moon—62 it is He who has made night and day succeed each other, a sign for those who would take heed and would be grateful.

63 The true servants of the Gracious One are those who walk upon the earth with humility and when they are addressed by the ignorant ones, their response is, ‘Peace’; 64 and those who spend the night prostrating themselves, and standing before their Lord, 65 who say, ‘Our Lord, ward off from us the punishment of Hell, for its punishment is a dreadful torment to suffer. 66 Indeed, it is an evil abode and evil dwelling-place.’ 67 They are those who are neither extravagant nor niggardly, but keep a balance between the two; 68 those who never invoke any other deity besides God, nor take a life which God has made sacred, except with the right to do so, nor commit adultery. Anyone who does that shall face punishment: 69 he shall have his suffering doubled on the Day of Resurrection and he will abide forever in disgrace, 70 except for those who repent and believe and do good deeds. God will change the evil deeds of such people into good ones: He is most forgiving and most merciful. 71 He who repents and does good deeds has truly turned to God.

72 And those who do not bear false witness, and when they pass by frivolity, they pass by with dignity; 73 who do not turn a blind eye and a deaf ear to the signs of their Lord when they are reminded of them; 74 who say, ‘Lord, grant us joy in our wives and children and make us a model for the righteous.’

75 These are the ones who will be rewarded with lofty mansions in Paradise, for their steadfastness. They will be received therein with greetings of welcome and salutations of peace. 76 There they shall abide forever: a blessed dwelling and a blessed resting place. 77 Say, ‘What would my Lord care for you, if you do not call on Him. Because you have indeed rejected the truth and His punishment is bound to overtake you.

26. THE POETS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Ta Sin Mim*

2 These are the verses of the
Book that makes things clear. 3 It
may be that you will destroy
yourself with grief because they
will not believe. 4 But if We had
so willed, We could have sent
down to them a sign from the
heavens so that their heads would
be bowed down before it in utter
humility. 5 Whenever there
comes to them any fresh warning
from the Merciful, they always
turn their backs on it: 6 they have
indeed rejected the message. But
the truth of what they laughed to
scorn will dawn upon them
before long.

7 Do they not see the earth, and
what beneficial kinds of things
We have caused to grow in it?
8 Surely in this there is a sign, yet
most of them would not believe:
9 truly, your Lord is the Mighty
One, the Merciful.

10 When your Lord called out
to Moses, saying, 'Go to the
wrongdoing people, 11 the people
of Pharaoh, will they not fear
God? 12 Moses replied, 'My
Lord, I fear they will reject me,
13 and 'my breast is straitened
and my tongue is not fluent; so
send Aaron as well; 14 besides,
they accuse me of a crime, and I
fear that they may put me to
death.'

15 God said, 'Indeed not; go
both of you with Our signs, We
shall be with you, listening [to
your call]. 16 Go to Pharaoh, both
of you, and say, "We are
messengers from the Lord of the
Worlds: 17 let the Children of
Israel go with us!"' 18 Pharaoh
said to Moses, 'Did we not bring
you up among us as a child? And
you spent several years of your
life with us. 19 Yet you committed
the deed you did, surely you are
one of the ingrates.'

20 Moses replied, 'I did that
when I was one of the misguided,

21 and I fled from you because I
feared you. Then my Lord
granted me wisdom and made
me one of the messengers.
22 And this is the favour with
which you taunt me—that you
have enslaved the Children of
Israel?' 23 Pharaoh said, 'What is
this: Lord of the Universe?'
24 Moses said, 'Lord of the
heavens and the earth and all
that is between them, if only you
would be convinced.' 25 Pharaoh
said to those around him, 'Did
you hear?' 26 Moses went on,
'He is your Lord and the Lord of
your forefathers.' 27 Pharaoh said,
'This messenger who has been
sent to you is surely possessed!'
28 Moses said, 'He is the Lord of
the East and the West, and all
that lies between them, if
only you could understand.'
29 Pharaoh said, 'If you take any
deity other than myself, I will
throw you into prison,' 30 and
Moses asked, 'Even if I show
you a clear sign?' 31 Pharaoh
said, 'Show it then, if you are
telling the truth!' 32 So Moses
threw down his staff and
suddenly it appeared as a serpent,
plainly visible. 33 And he drew
out his hand, and it appeared
[shining] white to the beholders.
34 Pharaoh said to the chiefs
around him, 'Surely this man is
a skilful sorcerer. 35 Who wants
to drive you out of your land by
his sorcery. Now what do you
advise?'

36 They said, 'Let him and his
brother wait a while, and send
heralds into the cities, 37 who
shall bring to you every skilful
sorcerer.' 38 So the sorcerers were
gathered on the appointed day
39 and the people were told,
'Will you also gather together,
40 so that we may follow the
magicians, if they be the
winners.' 41 When the magicians
came, they asked Pharaoh, 'Shall
we have a reward, if we are
the winners?' 42 He replied,
'Certainly, in that case you will
join my inner circle.'

43 Moses said to the magicians,
'Throw down whatever you are
going to throw.' 44 So they cast
down their ropes and staffs, and
said, 'By Pharaoh's honour, we

shall surely win.' 45 Then Moses
threw down his staff, and it
swallowed up all that they had
conjured into being. 46 The
magicians fell down prostrate,
47 saying, 'We believe in the Lord
of the Worlds, 48 the Lord of
Moses and Aaron.'

49 Pharaoh said, 'Have you
come to believe in him, before I
have given you permission? He
is surely your master who has
taught you magic. But you shall
see. I will cut off your hands and
feet on alternate sides and crucify
you all.' 50 They said, 'There is
no harm. To our Lord we shall
return. 51 We hope our Lord will
forgive us, as we are the first of
the believers.'

52 Then We revealed Our will
to Moses, saying, 'Set forth with
My servants, in the night, for
you will surely be pursued.'
53 And Pharaoh sent forth heralds
to all the cities. 54 'These,' they
said, 'are only a small band—
55 and they have enraged us—
56 we are a large and watchful
force.' 57 So We made them
leave their gardens and springs,
58 their treasures and their noble
dwellings—59 and We made the
Children of Israel inheritors of
these bounties.

60 Pharaoh and his people
pursued them at sunrise, 61 and
when the two groups saw each
other, Moses' companions said,
'We are sure to be overtaken.'
62 Moses replied, 'No, My Lord
is with me, and He will guide
me.' 63 Then We bade Moses
strike the sea with his staff. And
it parted, and each part was
like a huge mountain. 64 In the
meantime We made the others
approach that place. 65 We
delivered Moses and all those
who were with him, 66 then We
drowned the others. 67 Surely in
that there is a sign; yet most of
them do not believe: 68 truly,
your Lord is the Mighty One, the
Merciful.

69 Tell them the story of
Abraham, 70 when he asked his
father and his people, 'What is
that which you worship?' 71 They
said, 'We worship idols and will
continue to cling to them.' 72 He
asked, 'Do they hear you when

you call to them? 73 Do they help
or harm you?’ 74 They replied,
‘But we found our fathers doing
the same.’

75 Abraham said, ‘Have you
really thought about what you
have been worshipping, 76 you
and your forefathers—77 they are
all my enemies, not so the Lord
of the Universe, 78 who created
me. It is He who guides me;
79 He who gives me food and
drink; 80 He who cures me when
I am ill; 81 He who will cause me
to die and bring me back to life;
82 and He who will, I hope,
forgive me my faults on the Day
of the Judgement.

83 My Lord, bestow wisdom
upon me; unite me with the
righteous; 84 give me a good
name among later generations;
85 and make me one of
the inheritors of the Garden of
Bliss; 86 and forgive my father;
for he is one of the misguided;
87 and do not disgrace me on
the Day when all people are
resurrected, 88 the Day when
wealth and sons will be of no
avail, 89 and when he alone will
be saved who comes to God with
a sound heart.’

90 When Paradise shall be
brought near to the God-fearing
91 and Hell shall be revealed to
the misguided, 92 they will be
asked, ‘Where are those whom
you worshipped 93 besides God?
Can they help you or even help
themselves?’ 94 Then they will
be thrown headlong into Hell,
both they and the misguided
ones, 95 and Satan’s legions, all
together. 96 They will dispute
between themselves therein, and
will say, 97 ‘We were clearly
misguided 98 when we made you
equal with the Lord of the
Universe. 99 It was the evildoers
who led us astray, 100 and we
have no intercessors now, 101 and
no sincere friend. 102 If we could
only return to the world and be
among the believers.’ 103 There
is certainly a sign in that, but
most of them would not believe:
104 surely, your Lord is the Mighty
One, the Merciful.

105 The people of Noah
also rejected the messengers.
106 When their brother Noah said

to them, ‘Will you have no fear
of God? 107 I am a trustworthy
messenger for you: 108 fear God,
and obey me. 109 I ask of you no
recompense for it, for my only
reward is with the Lord of the
Universe, 110 so fear God and
obey me.’ 111 They replied, ‘Are
we to believe in you when your
followers are but the lowest of
the low?’ 112 He said, ‘What
knowledge do I have of their
doings? 113 My Lord alone can
bring them to account—if only
you could understand—114 I am
not going to drive away any
believers. 115 I am only a plain
warner.’

116 They said, ‘Noah, if you do
not desist, you will be stoned.’
117 Noah said, ‘My Lord, my
people have rejected me,
118 therefore, judge decisively
between me and them; and save
me and the believers who are
with me.’ 119 So We saved him,
and those who were with him in
the laden ark, 120 and drowned
the rest. 121 There is certainly a
sign in that; but most of them do
not believe: 122 surely your Lord
is the Mighty One, the Merciful.

123 The people of ‘Ad, too,
rejected the messengers. 124 Their
brother Hud said to them, ‘Will
you not fear God? 125 I am a
trustworthy messenger for you:
126 fear God, then, and obey me.
127 I ask no recompense of you;
my reward is only with the Lord
of the Universe. 128 Do you build
monuments on every high place
in vanity, 129 and erect castles
hoping that you will live forever.
130 When you lay hands upon
anyone, you do so as tyrants.
131 So fear God, and obey me;
132 fear Him who has aided you
with all that you know—133 He
has bestowed on you cattle, and
sons, 134 and gardens, and
springs—135 indeed, I fear for
you the torment of an awful
day.’

136 They replied, ‘It makes no
difference to us whether you
preach or do not preach, 137 this
is nothing but a habit of the
ancients: 138 and we shall not be
punished.’ 139 So they rejected
him; and We destroyed them.
There is certainly a sign in that;

but most of them would not believe. 140 Surely your Lord is the Mighty One, the Merciful.

141 The tribe of Thamud also rejected the messengers. 142 When their brother Salih said to them, ‘Will you not fear God? 143 Truly, I am a trustworthy messenger for you, 144 so fear God and obey me. 145 For this I demand no recompense from you; my reward is only with the Lord of the Universe. 146 Do you think that you will be left secure [forever]—147 in the midst of gardens and fountains, 148 and cornfields, and palm-trees laden with fruit—149 hewing out houses in the mountains and taking pride in your skill? 150 So fear God and obey me: 151 do not obey the bidding of those who are given to excesses, 152 those who spread corruption in the land instead of putting things right.’

153 They replied, ‘Surely you are bewitched. 154 You are only a human being like ourselves. Show us a sign, if you are telling the truth.’ 155 He said, ‘Here is a she-camel. She shall have her turn of drinking, as you have yours, each on an appointed day, 156 so do her no harm, or the punishment of an awful day will befall you.’ 157 Yet they hamstrung her, and then they became regretful: 158 so the punishment came down upon them. Surely in that there is a sign, but most of them would not believe. 159 Your Lord is the Mighty One, the Merciful.

160 Then the people of Lot rejected the messengers. 161 When their brother Lot said to them, ‘Will you not fear God? 162 I am a trustworthy messenger to you: 163 so fear God and obey me. 164 I ask of you no recompense for this; my reward is only with the Lord of the Universe. 165 Do you, of all people, approach males, 166 and leave your wives whom your Lord has created for you? You are a people who transgress all bounds.’

167 They said, ‘If you do not desist, Lot, you will surely be banished.’ 168 He said, ‘I am one

of those who abhors your ways.
169 My Lord, save me and my
family from their evil doings.'
170 We saved him and all of his
family, 171 except for an old
woman who stayed behind,
172 then We totally destroyed the
rest, 173 and We poured a rain [of
destruction] down upon them—
and how evil was the rain
which fell on those who were
forewarned. 174 Surely in this
there is a sign: but most of them
would not believe: 175 your Lord
is the Mighty One, the Merciful.

176 The dwellers of the forest
also rejected the messengers.
177 Shu'ayb said to them, 'Will
you not fear God? 178 I am a
trustworthy messenger to you:
179 so fear God, and obey me.
180 I ask of you no recompense
for this; my reward is only with
the Lord of the Universe. 181 Give
full measure, and cause no
loss to others. 182 Weigh
with correct scales: 183 do not
defraud people of what is
rightfully theirs; and do not
spread corruption in the land.
184 Fear Him who created you
and those who have gone
before you.'

185 They replied, 'You are
bewitched. 186 You are only a
human being like ourselves.
Indeed we think you are a liar.
187 So cause a fragment of the
sky to fall on us, if you are
truthful.' 188 He said, 'My Lord
has full knowledge of all your
actions.' 189 They rejected him,
and then had to suffer
the punishment of a day of
overshadowing gloom. That was
indeed the punishment of an
awful day. 190 Surely, in this is
indeed a sign; but most of them
would not believe: 191 your Lord
is the Mighty One, the Merciful.

192 This surely is a revelation
from the Lord of the Universe:
193 the Faithful Spirit has brought
it down 194 into your heart, so
that you may be a warner, 195 in
clear Arabic speech. 196 Surely, it
is foretold in the ancient
scriptures. 197 Is it not evidence
enough for them that the learned
among the Children of Israel
have recognized this [as true]?

198 Had We revealed it to any

one of the non-Arabs, 199 and he had recited it to them, they would not have believed in it. 200 We have thus caused denial of truth to enter into the hearts of the sinners: 201 they will not believe in it until they see the grievous punishment. 202 It will come upon them suddenly when they are not expecting it. 203 Then they will exclaim, ‘Could we have some respite?’

204 Do they want to hasten Our punishment? 205 Think! If We let them enjoy life for some years, 206 and then the promised punishment fell upon them, 207 of what avail would their past enjoyment be to them? 208 Never have We destroyed a town without sending down messengers to warn it, 209 as a reminder from Us: We are never unjust. 210 It was not the devils who brought down the Quran: 211 neither are they worthy of it, nor are they capable of it, 212 indeed they are debarred from overhearing it.

213 So do not call on any deity besides God, lest you incur His punishment. 214 Warn your nearest kinsmen, 215 and extend kindness and affection to those of the believers who follow you. 216 If they disobey you, say, ‘I bear no responsibility for what you do.’ 217 Put your trust in the Mighty One, the Merciful, 218 who sees you when you stand up [for prayer], 219 and sees your movements among those who prostrate themselves: 220 He is the All Hearing, the All Knowing.

221 Shall I tell you upon whom the devils descend? 222 They descend on every lying sinner, 223 who lends an ear to them, and most of them are liars. 224 And as for the poets—it is the misled who follow them. 225 Do you not see how they wander aimlessly in every valley, 226 preaching what they do not practice. 227 Not so the true believers who do good works and remember God with fervour and defend themselves only after they are wronged. The wrongdoers will soon know how evil a turn their affairs will take.

27. THE ANTS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Ta Sin*

These are verses from the Quran,
a book that makes things clear;
2 it is guidance and good news
for the believers 3 who pray
regularly and pay obligatory alms
and have firm faith in the
Hereafter. 4 We have made those
who do not believe in the
Hereafter feel their actions
appear good to them, so they
wander blindly: 5 they are the
ones who will have the worst of
punishment, and in the Hereafter
they will be the greatest losers.
6 You have received this Quran
from One who is all-wise, all-
knowing.

7 Tell of Moses who said to
his family, 'I have seen a fire. I
will bring you news from there,
or a burning brand for you to
warm yourselves.' 8 When he
came up to it, a voice called out,
'Blessed be whoever is near this
fire, and whoever is around
it! Glory be to God, Lord of
the Universe!
9 O Moses, I am God, the
Powerful, the Wise. 10 Throw
down your staff.' But when he
saw it moving like a snake, he
turned and fled. 'Moses, do not
be afraid! The messengers need
have no fear in My presence;
11 as for those who do wrong and
then do good after evil, I am
most forgiving, most merciful.
12 Now put your hand inside your
cloak next to your bosom and it
will come out [shining] white,
without any blemish. This will
be one of the nine signs for
Pharaoh and his people: for truly
they are a rebellious people.'
13 But when Our signs came to
them in all their clarity they said,
'This is clearly sorcery!' 14 And
they persisted in rejecting them
wrongfully and arrogantly, while in
their hearts they were convinced
of their truth. Observe, then, how
evil was the fate of the evil-doers.

15 We bestowed knowledge on
David and Solomon and they
both said, 'Praise be to God who
has exalted us above many
of His believing servants.'
16 Solomon succeeded David. He
said, 'Know, my people, that we
have been taught the speech of
birds and endowed with all good
things. Surely this is God's
manifest grace.'

17 Solomon's hosts of jinn and
men and birds, were all gathered
together in his presence and were
ranged in battle order, 18 and
when they came to the Valley
of the Ants, one ant said,
'Ants! Go into your dwellings,
in case Solomon and his
hosts inadvertently crush you.'
19 Solomon smiled broadly at its
words and said, 'Lord, inspire
me to be thankful for the
blessings You have granted me
and my parents, and to do good
deeds that please You; and
include me, by Your grace,
among Your righteous servants!'

20 Then Solomon inspected the
birds, and said, 'How is it that I
do not see the hoopoe? Is he
absent then? 21 I shall surely
punish him severely or order
him to be executed, unless he
gives me a good reason for his
absence.' 22 But he was not long
in coming, and said, 'I have
learnt something you did not
know. I have come to you from
Sheba with reliable news. 23 I
found a woman ruling over them,
who has been given everything
and she has a mighty throne. 24 I
found her and her people
worshipping the sun, instead of
God. Satan has made their
conduct appear good to them,
and has thus diverted them from
the right path, so that they might
not be guided. 25 Should they not
worship God who brings forth
what is hidden in the heavens
and earth and knows both what
you conceal and what you make
known? 26 He is God: there is no
deity but He, the Lord of the
mighty throne.'

27 Solomon said, 'We shall
soon see whether you have
spoken the truth, or whether you
are a liar. 28 Go with this letter of
mine and lay it before them, then

withdraw from them and see
how they respond.’ 29 The Queen
of Sheba said, ‘O Counsellors,
an honourable letter has been
delivered to me. 30 It is from
Solomon. It reads, “In the name
of God, Most Gracious, Most
Merciful, 31 do not exalt
yourselves above me, but come
to me in all submission.” 32 Now
advise me in this, Counsellors. I
never decide any affair till I have
conferred with you.’ 33 They said,
‘We are strong and our prowess
in battle is great, but the decision
is in your hands, so consider
what you will command.’ 34 She
said, ‘Surely, when mighty kings
invade a country, they despoil it
and humiliate its noblest
inhabitants—these men will do
the same—35 but I shall send
them a present and see with what
reply my envoys will return.’

36 So when [the envoy] came
to Solomon he said, ‘What! Are
you offering me wealth? But that
which God has given me is better
than that which He has given
you. Yet you rejoice in your gift.
37 Go back to them: we shall
most certainly come upon them
with forces which they will never
be able to withstand, and shall
most certainly cause them to be
driven from their lands, disgraced
and humbled!’

38 Solomon then said, ‘O
Counsellors, which of you can
bring me her throne before they
come to me in submission? 39 A
demon from among the jinn said,
‘I will bring it to you before you
get up from your seat. I am
strong and trustworthy enough
to do it.’ 40 But one of them who
had some knowledge of the Book
said, ‘I will bring it to you in the
twinkling of an eye.’ When
Solomon saw it placed before
him, he exclaimed, ‘This is by
the grace of my Lord, to test
whether I am grateful or
ungrateful. Whosoever is
grateful, it is for the good of his
own self; and whosoever is
ungrateful, then surely my Lord
is self-sufficient and generous.’

41 He said, ‘Disguise her
throne. We shall see whether or
not she will recognize it.’ 42 When
she came to Solomon, she was

asked, 'Is your throne like this?' She replied, 'It looks as though it were the same, and we had been given knowledge [of your power] before this, and we have already submitted.' [43] And that which she used to worship beside God had stopped her [from believing]; for she came of a disbelieving people. [44] Then she was bidden to enter the palace; but when she saw it, she thought it was a deep pool of water, and bared her legs. But Solomon explained, 'It is just a palace paved with glass,' and she said, 'My Lord, I have wronged myself: now I submit myself along with Solomon, to God, the Lord of the Universe.'

[45] To Thamud We sent their brother Salih. He said, 'Serve none but God.' But they divided themselves into two factions contending with one another. [46] He urged them, 'O my people, why do you wish to hasten on the evil rather than the good? Why do you not ask forgiveness of God, so that you may be shown mercy?' [47] They said, 'We see you and your followers as an evil omen.' He replied, 'No, your evil omen is with God; the truth is that you are a people being put to the test.'

[48] There were in the city nine men who spread corruption in the land, and would not reform. [49] They said, 'Let us bind ourselves by an oath sworn in the name of God that we shall attack Salih and his family by night, and to his protector [who demands retribution], we shall say, 'We were not present when they were slain. We are telling the truth.' [50] Thus they devised a plan, and We also devised a plan, but they were not aware of it. [51] See, then, what the consequences of their plan were. We destroyed them and their people utterly, all together. [52] Because of their wrongdoing, their houses are in ruins—in that surely there is a sign for people who have knowledge—[53] and We saved those who believed in and feared God.

[54] And tell of Lot. He said to his people, 'Will you commit

evil knowingly? 55 Must you go
lustfully to men instead of
women? Indeed, you are a people
who are deeply ignorant.' 56 The
only answer of his people was,
'Drive out Lot and his family
from the city. They are a people
who make themselves out to be
pure.' 57 So We delivered him
and his family—except his wife:
We ordained her to be one of
those who stayed behind—58 and
We pelted them with torrential
rain. How dreadful that rain was
for those who had been warned!
59 Say, 'All praise be to God, and
peace be upon those servants of
His whom He has chosen. Is
God better, or what they associate
with Him?

60 Who created the heavens
and the earth and sends down
water for you from the sky, by
which We make luxuriant
gardens grow—you could never
make such trees grow in them—
is it another deity besides God?
No indeed, but they are a people
who equate others with Him.
61 Who is it that made the earth
a stable place to live in? Who
made rivers flow through it?
Who set mountains upon it and
placed a barrier between the two
seas? Is there another deity
besides God? Indeed, most of
them have no knowledge.

62 Who responds to the
oppressed when he calls out to
Him, and relieves his suffering
and who will make you inheritors
of the earth? Then, is there a god
besides God? How little you pay
heed! 63 Who guides you in the
darkness of the land and sea?
Who sends the breezes as heralds
of His mercy? Then, is there a
deity besides God? Exalted is
God above what they associate
with Him. 64 Who originates
creation, then regenerates it, and
who gives you sustenance from
heaven and earth? Then, is there
a deity besides God?' Say, 'Bring
forward your proofs, if you are
telling the truth.'

65 Say, 'No one in the heavens
and the earth has knowledge of
the unseen except God.' They do
not know when they will be
raised up again. 66 Indeed, their
knowledge of the life to come

stops short of the truth: they are [often] in doubt as to its reality: in fact, they are blind to it.
67 Those who deny the truth say, 'When we have turned to dust like our fathers, shall we be brought back to life again?
68 We and our fathers were promised this before; these are but old stories.'
69 Say, 'Roam across the earth and observe what was the end of the sinful ones.'

70 Do not grieve over them, nor feel distressed at their schemes.
71 They ask, 'When will this promise be fulfilled, if what you say be true?'
72 Say, 'It may be that a part of what you would hasten on is close behind you.'
73 Truly, your Lord is bountiful to mankind, but most of them are not grateful.
74 The Lord knows full well what they conceal in their hearts and what they disclose:
75 there is nothing hidden in heaven and on earth, but is recorded in a clear Book.

76 This Quran explains to the children of Israel much of what they differ over,
77 certainly it is guidance and a blessing for the believers.
78 Certainly your Lord will decide between them in His wisdom—He is the Almighty, the All Knowing—
79 so put your trust in God. Surely you are on the path of manifest truth.
80 You cannot make the dead hear, nor can you make the deaf hear your call, when they turn their backs on it,
81 nor can you guide the blind out of their error. You can make only those hear you who believe in Our revelations and surrender themselves to Us.

82 When God's word is justly carried out against them, We will produce a *dabbah*[a] from the earth

---

[a] At the time when Almighty God takes the decision to bring to an end the present history of the earth, some extraordinary signs will appear to usher in the last phase. Among these signs will be the appearance of a *dabbah*. The message, which was brought through human beings and which was not accepted by the people, will be announced by *dabbah*. Modern systems of communication are probably what is alluded to here as *dabbah*. This will be the bell announcing the end of the examination period and not its beginning.

which will tell them that mankind
had no real faith in Our signs.
83 On that Day We shall assemble
together a host from every
community of those who cried
lies to Our revelations and they
will be grouped 84 then,
when they have arrived, He
will say, 'Did you deny My
revelations, even though you did
not have proper knowledge of
them? Or what was it that you
were doing?' 85 The verdict will
be given against them, because
they did wrong, and they will be
speechless. 86 Do they not see
that We have made the night for
them to rest in and the day to
give them light? There are
certainly signs in that for people
who believe.

87 On the Day when the trumpet
is blown, whoever is in the
heavens and whoever is on the
earth will be struck with terror,
except for those whom God
wishes to spare. All shall come
to Him in utter humility. 88 You
see the mountains and think them
firmly fixed. But they shall pass
away as the clouds pass away.
Such is the work of God, who
has ordered all things to
perfection: He is fully aware of
what you do. 89 Whoever does a
good deed, shall be rewarded
with what is better, and will be
secure from fear of that Day,
90 and those who do evil will be
flung down on their faces in the
Fire. Are you not rewarded
according to your deeds?

91 Say, 'I am commanded to
serve the Lord of this town,
which He has made inviolable
and to whom everything
belongs; I am commanded to be
one of those devoted to Him;
92 to recite the Quran.' Whoever
follows its guidance, follows it
only for the good of his own
soul; and as for him who goes
astray, just say, 'I am only a
warner.' 93 Then say, 'Praise be
to God! He will show you His
signs and you will recognize
them. Your Lord is not unaware
of what you do.'

28. THE STORY

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Ta Sin Mim*

2 These are verses from the Book
that makes things clear. 3 We
shall narrate to you some of the
story of Moses and Pharaoh,
with truth, for people who would
believe. 4 Pharaoh behaved
arrogantly in the land, and
divided the people into groups,
seeking to weaken one section,
slaying their sons and sparing
their daughters—he was one of
those who spread corruption—
5 We wished to favour those
who were oppressed in the land,
and to make them leaders and
make them inheritors [of Our
bounties], 6 and to give them
power in the land; and to show
Pharaoh and Haman and their
hosts that very thing which they
feared.

7 We inspired Moses' mother
saying, 'Suckle him, and then,
when you fear for him, cast him
into the river, and have no fear
and do not grieve, for We shall
return him to you, and shall
make him one of the
Messengers.' 8 Then Pharaoh's
household picked him up—later
to become for them an enemy
and a source of grief for them:
Pharaoh and Haman and their
hosts were wrongdoers—9 and
Pharaoh's wife said, 'He will be
a joy to the eye for me and you!
Do not slay him: he may well be
of use to us, or we may adopt
him as a son.' They did not
realize what they were doing.

10 Moses' mother's heart was
full of anxiety—she would have
disclosed his identity had We not
strengthened her heart so that
she might be a firm believer [in
Our promise]. 11 She said to
Moses' sister, 'Go, and follow
him.' So she watched him from
a distance, like a stranger,
without anyone noticing her.
12 We had already made him
refuse all wet nurses. So his

sister said to them, 'Shall I tell you of a family who will bring him up for you and take good care of him?' 13 Thus We restored him to his mother, so that she might be comforted and not grieve any more, and so that she would know that God's promise was true. But most of them do not realize this. 14 When Moses reached full manhood and maturity, We bestowed upon him wisdom and knowledge: this is how We reward those who do good.

15 He entered the city unnoticed by its people, and there he encountered two men fighting with one another—one of his own people and the other one of his enemies. The one who belonged to his own people cried out to him for help against his foe—whereupon Moses struck him down with his fist, thereby causing his death. Moses said, 'This is Satan's doing; he is an open foe, leading man astray.' 16 He prayed, 'Forgive me Lord, for I have sinned against my soul.' God forgave him; for He is the Forgiving One, the Merciful. 17 He said, 'My Lord, because of the favour that You have shown me, I vow that I will never be a helper of the guilty.'

18 The next morning, when he was walking in the city, apprehensive, and watchful, and the man who had sought his help the day before cried out to him again for help. Moses said to him, 'You are clearly a misguided man.' 19 When he wanted to catch the one who was an enemy to them both, the man said, 'Moses, do you want to kill me just as you killed a man yesterday? You only want to become a tyrant in the land; you do not want to set things right.' 20 A man came running from the far side of the city, and said, 'Moses, the authorities are conspiring to kill you, so leave the city. I am one of your well-wishers.' 21 So Moses departed from the city, fearful and vigilant, and prayed, 'My Lord, save me from these unjust people.'

22 When he made his way towards Midian, he said, 'I am

sure, my Lord will guide me to
the right way.' 23 And when he
arrived at the well of Midian, he
found around it a group of men
watering their flocks, and he saw
two women standing apart from
them, who were holding back
their flocks, so he asked, 'What
is the matter with you?' They
replied, 'We cannot draw water
until the shepherds take away
their sheep. Our father is a very
old man.' 24 So Moses watered
their flocks for them; and
returned into the shade and
prayed, 'Lord, I am truly in need
of whatever blessing You may
send down for me,' 25 and then
one of the two women came
walking shyly up to him and
said, 'My father is asking you to
come so that he may reward you
for watering our flocks for us.'
When Moses came to their father
and gave him an account of
himself, he said: 'Don't be afraid!
You have escaped from those
wrongdoing people.' 26 One of
the girls said, 'Father, hire him!
For the best man to hire is
someone strong and trustworthy.'
27 The father said, 'I would like
to marry you to one of these two
daughters of mine on the
condition that you stay eight
years in my service. But if you
wish it, you may stay ten. I do
not want to impose any hardship
on you. God willing, you will
find me a fair person.' 28 Moses
said, 'That is agreed between me
and you; whichever of the two
terms I fulfil, there will be no
blame on me. God is witness to
what we say.'

29 When Moses completed the
term and set out with his family,
he noticed a fire in the direction
of Mount Tur. He said to his
family: 'Stay here, I can see a
fire. Perhaps I can bring you
news, or a burning brand from
the fire with which you may
warm yourself.' 30 And when he
came to it, he was called by a
voice from a bush in a blessed
spot, on the right side of the
valley: 'O Moses, I am God,
Lord of the Universe. 31 Throw
down your staff.' And when he
saw it move as though it were a
serpent, he turned his back and

fled, and did not look back. ‘O Moses,’ said the voice, ‘come forward and have no fear; you are quite safe. 32 Put your hand into your bosom; it will come out [shining] white, without blemish; now draw your arm close to your body to calm your fears. These are two credentials from your Lord for Pharaoh and his nobles. Surely, they are a rebellious people.’

33 Moses said, ‘My Lord, I have killed one of their people and fear that they may kill me. 34 My brother Aaron is more eloquent than I am. Send him with me to support me and back me up. For I fear that they will reject me.’ 35 God said: ‘We shall strengthen your arm through your brother, We shall give you both power, so that they shall not be able to harm you. Set forth with Our signs. You, and those who follow you, will surely prevail.’

36 When Moses came to them with Our clear signs, they said, ‘This is nothing but contrived magic. We never heard of this among our forefathers.’ 37 And Moses replied, ‘My Lord knows best who comes with guidance from Him and who will attain the heavenly abode in the hereafter. The wrongdoers shall never prosper.’ 38 Pharaoh said, ‘O nobles, I know of no god for you other than myself. So, Haman, burn me bricks of clay, and build me a high tower, so that I may have a look at the God of Moses, though I consider him to be one of the liars.’

39 He and his hosts behaved arrogantly in the land without any justification—thinking that they would not be recalled to Us— 40 so We seized him and his hosts and cast them into the sea. Consider the fate of the wrongdoers. 41 We had made them leaders, but they called people to the Fire; and on the Day of Judgement they will not be helped. 42 We have caused a curse to follow them in this world and, on the Day of Judgement, they will be among the wretched. 43 After We had destroyed the earlier generations, We gave Moses the Book to give

men insight, and as guidance and a blessing for people, so that they might take heed.

44 You were not present on the western side of the Mount when We gave Our Command to Moses: nor were you among the witnesses—45 We brought into being many generations who lived long lives—nor did you live among the people of Midian and recite our revelations to them—it is We who send messengers—46 you were not on the side of the Mount when We called out to Moses, but We have sent you as a mercy from your Lord, so that you may warn people to whom no warner has been sent before you, so that they may take heed, 47 and may not say, if an affliction should befall them on account of their misdeeds: 'Lord, if only You had sent us a messenger, we might have followed Your message and become believers.' 48 But when the truth came to them from Us, they said, 'Why has he not been given the like of what Moses was given?' But did they not reject what Moses was given before? They said, 'Both [Moses and Muhammad] are kinds of sorcery, each assisting the other.' And they add, 'We reject both of them.'

49 Say to them, 'Bring down from God a scripture that is a better guide than these two and I will follow it, if what you say be true.' 50 If they do not respond to you, then know that they follow only their own desires. Who could be more astray than he who follows his own likes and dislikes with no guidance from God? God does not guide the evil-doers. 51 We have conveyed Our Word to them, in succession, so that they may give heed.

52 Those to whom We gave the Book before this believe in it [the Quran], 53 and, when it is recited to them, they say, 'We believe in it. Indeed it is the truth from our Lord. Even before it came, we had submitted ourselves.' 54 Such people as these will receive a double reward, because they are

steadfast and repel evil with
good, and give alms out of what
We have given them, 55 and when
they hear vain talk, they turn
away from it and say, ‘We have
our actions and you have yours.
We wish you peace. We will
have nothing to do with the
ignorant.’ 56 You cannot guide
whoever you please: it is God
who guides whom He will. He
best knows those who would
accept guidance.

57 They say, ‘If we were to
follow your guidance, we should
be uprooted from our land.’ But
have We not established for them
a safe haven to which fruits of
every kind are brought as a
provision from Ourself? But
most of them have no knowledge.

58 How many townships have
We destroyed where the people
had become arrogant on account
of their affluence? Since then
their dwelling-places have
scarcely been inhabited—We
became their inheritors. 59 Your
Lord would never destroy
a people until He had sent
messengers to their capital cities,
reciting to them Our revelations.
Nor did We destroy a town unless
their people became wrongdoers.

60 Whatever you are given in
this life is nothing but a
temporary provision of this life
and its glitter; what God has is
better and more lasting. Will you
not then understand? 61 Can
someone to whom We have made
a gracious promise and who will
see it fulfilled, be compared to
someone We have allowed to
enjoy a worldly life, awhile, and
who will be brought up [before
God] for his accounting on the
Day of Resurrection?

62 On that Day He will call to
them, and say, ‘Where are those
whom you claimed to be My
partners?’ 63 And those on whom
sentence has been passed, will
say, ‘Our Lord, these are the
ones who led us astray. We led
them astray as we ourselves were
led astray. We now dissociate
ourselves from them before You;
it was not us that they
worshipped.’

64 Then they will be told, ‘Call
upon your partners.’ And they

will call upon them, but will
receive no answer. They shall
witness the punishment. If only
they had allowed themselves to
be guided. 65 On that Day God
will call out to them, saying,
'What answer did you give to
Our messengers?' 66 They will
be left speechless on that Day,
and they will not be able to
consult each other. 67 But as for
him who repents and believes
and does good deeds, he can
hope to find himself among the
successful.

68 Your Lord creates
whatsoever He wills and chooses
whomsoever He pleases. They
have no choice. Praise be to
God—exalted is He over
anything they may associate with
Him! 69 Your Lord knows what
they conceal in their hearts and
what they disclose. 70 He is God:
there is no god but Him. All
Praise is due to Him in this
world and the hereafter. His is
the Judgement and to Him you
shall be returned.

71 Ask them, 'Tell me, if God
were to extend perpetual night
over you till the Day of
Judgement, is there any deity
other than God that could bring
you light? Will you not listen?'
72 Say, 'Tell me, if God were to
extend perpetual day over you
till the Day of Judgement—is
there any deity other than God
that could bring you night, in
which to rest? Will you not then
see?' 73 In His mercy He has
made for you the night and the
day, during which you may rest,
and seek His bounty and be
grateful.

74 And on the Day He shall
call out to them and say, 'Where
are those whom you alleged were
My partners.' 75 And We shall
bring forth from every people a
witness and We shall say to
them: 'Bring your proof.' Then
they will know that truth belongs
to God alone, and that which
they used to invent will fall away
from them.

76 Korah was one of Moses'
people, but he behaved arrogantly
towards them. We had given him
such treasures that their very
keys would have weighed down

a band of strong men. His people
said to him, ‘Do not exult in your
riches, for God does not love the
exultant. 77 But seek the Home
of the Hereafter by means of that
which God has bestowed on
you; do not forget to take your
portion [of the Hereafter] in this
world.’ Be good to others as God
has been good to you and do not
strive for evil in the land, for
God does not love the evil-doers.’

78 But he said, ‘I have been
given it only because of the
knowledge I possess.’ Did he not
know that God had destroyed
before him people who were
stronger than he and possessed
even greater resources? The
guilty are not required to offer
explanations of their sins.

79 Then he went forth before
his people in all his pomp. Those
who were eager for the life of
this world said, ‘If only we had
the like of Korah’s fortune! He
really is a very fortunate man,’
80 but those who had been given
knowledge said, ‘Woe to you,
God’s reward is better for those
who believe and do good deeds:
and it is awarded only to those
who are steadfast.’

81 Then We caused the earth to
swallow up him and his home:
there was no one to help him
against God, nor could he defend
himself. 82 Those who had
coveted his position the day
before now began to say, ‘Ah! It
is indeed God alone who gives
abundantly to whom He will and
sparingly to whom He pleases.
Had not God been gracious to
us, He would have caused us to
be swallowed up also.’ Alas
indeed! Those who deny the
truth will never prosper.

83 As for the abode of the
Hereafter, We shall assign it to
those who seek neither self-
aggrandisement on the earth nor
corruption. The righteous shall
have a blessed end. 84 He who
does good shall be rewarded
with something better. But he
who does evil shall be requited
according to his deeds.

85 He who has entrusted you
with the responsibility of the
Quran, will surely lead you to a
successful end. Say, ‘My Lord

knows best who is rightly guided and who is in gross error.' [86] You never expected that this Book would be revealed to you. Yet, by the grace of your Lord, you have received it. So do not support those who reject the truth. [87] And let no one divert you from God's revelations, once they have been sent down to you. Call people to your Lord. Never be of those who ascribe partners to God. [88] Invoke no god other than God, for there is no god but Him. All things are bound to perish except Himself. His is the judgement, and to Him you shall be returned.

29. THE SPIDER

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] *Alif Lam Mim*

[2] Do people think that once they say, 'We believe,' they will be left alone and not be put to the test? [3] We certainly tried those who have gone before them, so God will certainly distinguish between those who are truthful and those who are lying.

[4] Do those who do evil imagine that they will escape Us? How ill they judge! [5] He who hopes to meet God should know that God's appointed hour is sure to come. He is the All Hearing, the All Knowing. [6] And whoever strives, strives only for himself—God is independent of all His creation—[7] as for those who have faith and do good works, We shall certainly cleanse them of their evil deeds and reward them according to the best of their actions.

[8] We have enjoined man to show kindness to his parents. But if they bid you associate with Me something about which you have no knowledge, do not obey them. To Me you shall all return, and I shall tell you about

all that you have done. 9 We shall
surely admit those who believe
and do good deeds to the
company of the righteous.

10 Some profess to believe in
God, but when they suffer for
God's cause they mistake the
persecution of man for the
punishment of God. But when
help comes to you from God,
they will say, 'We have always
been with you.' Is not God fully
aware of what is in the hearts of
all creatures? 11 Most certainly
God will mark out those who
believe and mark out those who
are hypocrites.

12 Those who deny the truth
say to the faithful, 'Follow our
way, and we will bear the burden
of your sins.' But they will bear
none of their sins. They are
surely lying. 13 They shall bear
their own burdens, and other
burdens besides. On the Day of
Resurrection they shall be
questioned about their false
assertions.

14 We sent Noah to his people
and he lived among them for
fifty short of a thousand years;
then the deluge overtook them,
for they were wrongdoers. 15 But
We saved him and those who
were with him in the Ark and
made the event a sign for
mankind.

16 Tell of Abraham. He said to
his people, 'Worship God and
fear Him, that would be best for
you, if only you knew. 17 You
worship idols besides God and
fabricate falsehoods. Those
whom you worship besides God
have no power to provide
sustenance for you. So seek
your sustenance from God and
worship Him and be grateful to
Him, for to Him you shall return.
18 If you reject the truth,
other communities before you
also rejected the truth. The
messenger's responsibility is
only to convey the message
clearly.'

19 Do they not see how
God originates creation, then
reproduces it? That surely is
easy for God. 20 Tell them, 'Roam
the earth and see how He
originated creation. Then God
will bring into being your second

life. God has power over all things. 21 He punishes whom He will and shows mercy to whom He pleases. And to Him you shall be returned. 22 You cannot defeat His purpose on earth or in heaven; nor have you any friend or helper besides God.’ 23 Those who deny God’s revelations and the meeting with Him—it is they who have despaired of My mercy. They will suffer a grievous punishment.

24 The only response of Abraham’s people was, ‘Kill him or burn him!’ But God saved him from the fire. Surely in this there are signs for people who believe. 25 Abraham said, ‘You have taken up the worship of idols, instead of God, to promote friendship between yourselves in the present life. But on the Day of Judgement, you will disown and curse one another. Your abode will be the Fire and you will have no helpers.’ 26 Lot was the one who believed in him and said, ‘I shall migrate to another land for the sake of my Lord. He is the Mighty One, the Wise One.’ 27 We gave him Isaac and Jacob and granted prophethood and the Book to his descendants. We gave him his reward in this life and in the Hereafter he shall dwell among the righteous.

28 We sent Lot to his people and he said to them, ‘Indeed you commit obscenity such as no people before you have ever committed. 29 You approach men and waylay them on the road and commit depravities within your gatherings.’ But his people’s only reply was, ‘Bring down God’s punishment upon us, if what you say be true.’ 30 Lot prayed, ‘Lord, help me against this wicked people.’

31 When Our messengers brought Abraham the good news [of the birth of Isaac] they [also] said, ‘We are indeed going to destroy the people of this city, for the people of this city are truly wrongdoers.’ 32 Abraham said, ‘But, Lot lives here.’ They answered, ‘We well know who lives here. We shall surely save him and his whole family, except his wife, who will be among

those who stay behind.’ 33 When
Our messengers came to Lot, he
was troubled and distressed on
their account. They said, ‘Have
no fear or grief. We shall certainly
save you and your household,
except your wife—who will be
among those who stay behind—
34 We are surely going to bring
down a punishment from heaven
on the people of this town
because of their depravities.’
35 Surely the ruins We left of that
city are a clear sign for a people
who use their reason.

36 To the people of Midian We
sent their brother Shu‘ayb. He
said, ‘My people, worship God,
and look forward to the Last
Day, and do not commit evil and
spread corruption in the land.’
37 But they rejected him, so the
earthquake overwhelmed them
and they were left lying prostrate
on the ground in their homes.

38 The same happened to the
tribes of ‘Ad and Thamud: this
must be clear to you from their
ruins. Satan made their actions
seem good to them, and turned
them away from the straight
path, even though they were
intelligent people.

39 Korah, Pharaoh, and Haman:
Moses came to them with clear
signs but they were arrogant in
the land. They could not escape
Us. 40 So We seized each one for
his sins; some We struck with a
violent storm; some of them were
overcome by a sudden blast,
some were swallowed up by the
earth and some We drowned.
God did not wrong them: they
wronged themselves.

41 Those who take protectors
other than God can be compared
to the spider which builds itself
a cobweb, but the frailest of all
structures is the house of the
spider, if they but knew it. 42 God
surely knows what they invoke
besides Him. He is the Mighty,
the Wise One. 43 Such are the
comparisons We make for
people, but only those understand
them who have knowledge.
44 God has created the heavens
and the earth for a purpose;
surely in this there is a sign for
true believers.

45 Recite what has been

revealed to you of the book, and pray regularly. Surely prayer restrains one from indecency and evil and remembrance of God is greater. God has knowledge of all your actions.

46 Believers, argue only in the best way with the People of the Book, [but contend not at all] with such of them as are unjust. Say, 'We believe in what has been revealed to us, and what has been revealed to you; our God and your God are one; and to Him we submit.'

47 Likewise We have sent down the Book to you. Those to whom We gave the scripture believe in it, and so do some of your own people. Only those who deny the truth reject Our revelations. 48 You were not able to read any book before this, nor did you write one down with your hand. If you had done so, the followers of falsehood would have had cause to doubt it. 49 But the Quran is a revelation that is clear to the hearts of those endowed with knowledge. Only the evil-doers refuse to acknowledge Our revelations.

50 They say, 'Why has no sign been given to him by his Lord?' Say, 'The signs are in the hands of God. I am but a plain warner.' 51 Is it not sufficient for them that We have sent you down the Book to be recited to them? In this surely there is a blessing and an admonition for a people who believe. 52 Say, 'God is sufficient as a witness between you and me. He knows all that is in the heavens and the earth. Those who believe in falsehood and reject God will surely be the losers.'

53 They ask you to hasten the punishment. Had there not been an appointed time for it, the punishment would already have come to them. Indeed it will come down upon them suddenly and catch them unawares. 54 They ask you to hasten the punishment, but surely, Hell is [already] encompassing those who deny the truth. 55 On the Day the punishment envelops them from above them and from underneath their feet, they will be told, 'Taste [the punishment] for what you used to do!'

56 My servants who believe, My earth is vast, so worship Me alone. 57 Every soul shall taste death and then to Us you shall return. 58 We shall lodge forever those who believe and do good works in the mansions of Paradise beside which rivers flow. How excellent is the reward of those who labour, 59 and who are steadfast and put their trust in their Lord. 60 How many creatures cannot fend for themselves! God provides for them and for you. He is the All Hearing, the All Knowing.

61 If you ask them who it is that has created the heavens and the earth and subjugated the sun and the moon, they will say, ‘God.’ How then are they turned away? 62 God gives abundantly to whom He will and sparingly to whom He pleases. God has full knowledge of all things. 63 And if you ask them who it is that sends down water from the sky and revives the earth with it after its death, they will surely answer, ‘God.’ Then praise be to God. But most of them do not understand.

64 The life of this world is nothing but sport and a diversion. It is the life of the Hereafter which is the only true life, if they but knew it. 65 When they board a vessel, they call on God, sincere in their faith for Him alone; but when He brings them safe to land, they begin to ascribe partners to Him. 66 And thus they may show utter ingratitude for Our favours; let them enjoy themselves for a time. But they will soon come to know.

67 Have they not seen how We have granted them a safe sanctuary, though all around them people are snatched away? Would they still believe in falsehood, and deny the favour of God? 68 Who does greater wrong than he who invents a lie about God or rejects the truth when it comes to him? Is Hell not the home for those who deny the truth. 69 We will surely guide in Our ways those who strive hard for Our cause, God is surely with the righteous.

30. THE ROMANS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Alif Lam Mim*

2 The Romans have been defeated
3 in a nearby land. They will
reverse their defeat with a victory
4 within a few years: [for] with
God rests all power of decision,
first and last. On that day the
believers too will have cause to
rejoice, 5 with the help of God.
He helps whom He pleases: He
is the Mighty, and the Merciful.
6 [This is] God's promise. Never
does God fail to fulfil His
promise—but most people do
not know this; 7 they only know
the outward appearance of the
life of this world, and they are
neglectful of the Hereafter.

8 Do they not ponder about
their own selves? God has created
the heavens and the earth and all
that is between them for a
purpose and for an appointed
time? Yet many deny they will
ever meet with their Lord. 9 Have
they not travelled through the
land and seen what end their
predecessors met? They
were mightier than them: they
cultivated the earth more and
built more upon it than these
have ever built. Their own
messengers also came to them
with clear signs: God did not
wrong them; they wronged
themselves. 10 Then the end of
those who committed evil was
evil, for they belied the signs of
God, and they derided them.

11 God originates the creation,
and shall repeat it, then to Him
you shall be returned. 12 On the
Day the Hour arrives, the guilty
will be struck dumb with
despair, 13 and they will have
no intercessors among those
partners they ascribed to God.
They will deny these partners.
14 When the Last Hour dawns—
on that Day they will be sorted
out: 15 those who believed and
did good deeds will rejoice in a
Garden, 16 and as for those who

denied the truth and belied Our signs and the meeting in the Hereafter—they shall be brought to the torment. [17] So glorify God in the evening and in the morning—[18] and praise be to Him in the heavens and on the earth—and glorify Him in the late afternoon, and at midday.[a]

[19] He brings forth the living from the dead and the dead from the living. He gives life to the earth after its death, and you shall be raised to life in the same way. [20] One of His signs is that He created you from dust and, behold, you became human beings and multiplied yourselves throughout the earth. [21] Another of His signs is that He created for you from among yourselves spouses, so that you might find repose in them, and He created between you affection and kindness. Truly there are signs in this for people who reflect.

[22] Another of His signs is that He created the heavens and earth, and the diversity of your languages and colours. There truly are signs in this for those who know. [23] Among His signs are your sleep, at night or in daytime, and your seeking His bounty. There truly are signs in this for people who hear. [24] Among His signs is this: He shows you the lightning, giving rise to [both] fear and hope, and sends down water from the sky, giving life thereby to the earth after it had been lifeless: in this, behold, there are signs indeed for people who use their reason!

[25] Another of His signs is this: the heavens and the earth stand firm by His command and afterwards when He calls you, behold, from the earth you will come forth. [26] All those in the

---

[a] Constant remembrance (through prayer, etc.) and deep contemplation lead a man towards finding God. It is by profound thought that a man finds God. In the present world, God has scattered His signs everywhere—in the human environment, in the surrounding universe and also in the teachings of the Prophet. Those who give serious consideration to these signs of God will find God.

heavens and on the earth belong to Him. All are obedient to Him. [27] He is the One who originates creation, then repeats it, and it is very easy for Him. His is the most exalted state in the heavens and on the earth; He is the Mighty, the Wise One.

[28] He sets forth for you an example taken from your own lives. Do you make your servants full partners with an equal share in the wealth We have bestowed upon you? Do you fear them as you fear each other? In this way We explain the signs to people who use their reason. [29] And still those who are unjust follow their own desires without having any knowledge. Then who can guide those whom God has let go astray? There shall be none to help them.

[30] Devote yourself single-mindedly to the Religion. And follow the nature [constitution] as made by God, that nature in which He has created mankind. There is no altering the creation of God. That is the right religion. But most people do not realize it. [31] Turn to Him and fear Him, and be steadfast in prayer, and do not be one of those who associate partners with God, [32] those who split up their religion and became divided into sects; each one exulting in what they have.

[33] When an affliction befalls men, they cry out to their Lord, turning to Him in repentance; but then, when He has made them taste His mercy, a section of them associate partners with their Lord, [34] and are ungrateful for what We have given them. So enjoy yourselves for a while, but soon you will come to know. [35] Have We sent down to them any authority which speaks in favour of what they associate with Him?

[36] When We give mankind a taste of Our blessing, they rejoice therein: but if they encounter tribulation because of their own actions—they fall into despair. [37] Do they not see that God gives abundantly to whoever He pleases, and sparingly to whoever He pleases? In that truly there are signs for those who believe.

38 So give the near relative, the needy, and the wayfarer their due—that is best for those who seek God's pleasure: such men are the ones who will surely prosper. 39 Whatever you lend out in usury to gain in value through other people's wealth will not increase in God's eyes, but whatever you give in alms in your desire for God's pleasure will be multiplied.

40 God is He who created you, then provides for you, then will cause you to die and then bring you back to life. Can any of your 'partners' do any one of these things? Glory be to Him and exalted be He above anything they associate with Him! 41 Corruption has appeared on land and sea because of the evil which men's hands have done: and so He will make them taste the fruit of some of their doings, so that they may turn back from evil. 42 Say, 'Journey through the land, and see how those before you met their end—most of them, ascribed partners with God.'

43 [Prophet], set your face to the right religion, before that Day comes from God which cannot be averted. On that Day, mankind will be parted in two. 44 Those who rejected the truth will bear the burden of that rejection, and those who did good deeds will have made good provision for themselves. 45 For then He will reward out of His bounty those who believe and do good deeds; He does not love those who reject the truth.

46 Among His signs is this: He sends out the winds bearing good news so that He may make you taste His mercy, and ships sail at His command, so that you may seek His bounty, and be grateful. 47 Surely, We sent messengers before you to their own people, and they brought them clear signs. Then We took vengeance on the guilty. It was certainly Our duty to help the believers.

48 It is God who sends out the winds so that they raise the clouds. Then He spreads them in the sky as He wills and places them layer upon layer and you see the rain issuing forth from

their midst. When He causes it to
fall on whichever of His servants
He pleases, behold! they rejoice;
49 though before that—before it
was sent down upon them—
they were in despair. 50 Look,
therefore, at the signs of God's
mercy; how He resurrects the
earth after its death. Truly, the
same God will resurrect the dead;
for He has power over all things.
51 Yet if We send a wind and they
see their harvest turn yellow,
they will then begin to deny [Our
favours]. 52 You [Prophet] cannot
make the dead hear and you
cannot make the deaf hear your
call when they turn their backs
and leave; 53 just as you cannot
lead the blind [of heart] out of
their error, you cannot make
anyone hear your call save those
who are willing to believe in Our
revelations, and thus surrender
themselves to Us and are
submissive to Our will.

54 God is the One who has
created you in a state of
weakness; then He has granted
you strength following [your]
weakness; later on He has given
you infirmity and grey hairs in
place of strength. He creates
whatever He wishes; He is the
All Knowing and All Powerful.
55 On the Day the Last Hour
arrives, the evil-doers will swear
they have not even tarried for an
hour—they have always been
deluded—56 but those endowed
with knowledge and faith will
say, 'Indeed, you did tarry, as
God ordained, till the Day of
Resurrection, and this is the Day
of Resurrection: but you were
not aware of it.' 57 So on that
Day their pleas shall be of no
avail, nor will they be allowed to
make amends.

58 Truly, We have set forth for
men in this Quran every kind of
parable and indeed, if you bring
them a sign, those who are bent
on denying the truth are sure to
say, 'You are only making false
claims!' 59 In this way God seals
the hearts of those who do not
[want to] know [the truth], 60 so
have patience [O Muhammad]!
God's promise is true; let not
those who will not be convinced
make you discouraged.

31. LUQMAN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Alif Lam Mim*

2 These are the verses of the
Book of wisdom, 3 a guide and a
mercy for those who do good,
4 for those who attend to their
prayers and pay the *zakat* and
who have firm faith in the
Hereafter: 5 these are rightly
guided by their Lord: and these
are the ones who will prosper.

6 But among men there are
some who spend their time in
idle diversions only to lead
people astray from the path of
God, and without knowledge,
hold it up to ridicule: for
such there is a humiliating
punishment in store. 7 Whenever
Our messages are conveyed to
such a person, he turns away in
his arrogance, as though he had
not heard them—as though his
ears were sealed: give him, then,
the tidings of grievous suffering
[in the life to come]. 8 Surely,
those who believe and do good
works shall enter gardens of bliss,
9 wherein they will abide forever.
That is God's true promise; He is
the Mighty, the Wise One.

10 He has created the skies
without any support that you
could see, and has placed firm
mountains upon the earth, lest it
sway with you, and has caused
all manner of living creatures to
multiply thereon. And We sent
down water from the skies, and
thus We made every kind of
excellent plant grow there: 11 this
is God's creation. Show me then
what those besides Him have
created! The wrongdoers are in
manifest error.

12 We bestowed wisdom on
Luqman, saying, 'Be grateful to
God: he who is grateful, is
grateful only for the good of his
own soul. But if anyone is
ungrateful, then surely God is
self-sufficient and praiseworthy.'
13 Luqman said to his son,
counselling him, 'My son, do

not associate anything with God. Associating others with Him is a terrible wrong.'

[14] We have enjoined man to show kindness to his parents—for his mother bears him, in hardship upon hardship, and his weaning takes two years. [We said] Give thanks to Me and to your parents; all will return to Me. [15] But if they press you to associate something with Me about which you have no knowledge, do not obey them. Yet be kind to them in this world and follow the path of those who turn to Me. You will all return to Me in the end, and I will tell you everything that you have done.

[16] [Luqman further said,] 'O my son! Though it be but the weight of a grain of mustard seed and though it be hidden in a rock, or in the heavens or on the earth, God will bring it forth. Truly, God is the knower of all subtleties and He is aware. [17] O my dear son! Say your prayers regularly, and enjoin good, and forbid evil, and endure patiently whatever may befall you. Surely, this is something which requires firm resolve. [18] Do not avert your face from people out of haughtiness and do not walk with pride on the earth: for, behold, God does not love arrogant and boastful people. [19] Walk modestly and lower your voice, for the ugliest of all voices is the braying of the ass.'

[20] Have you not seen that God has subjected to you whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on the earth, and has completed His favours to you, both seen and unseen? Yet there are some who dispute concerning God, without knowledge or guidance or an enlightening Book. [21] When they are told to follow the [Revelations] that God has sent down, they say, 'No, we shall follow the ways that we found our fathers [following].' Yes! Even though Satan is inviting them to the punishment of the burning Fire?

[22] He who submits himself completely to God, and is a doer of good, has surely grasped a strong handle, for the final

outcome of all events rests with God. 23 But if any reject the Faith, let not his rejection grieve you: for to Us they shall return, and We shall tell them the truth about their deeds: for God knows well all that is in the human hearts—24 We shall let them enjoy themselves for a little while, but then We shall drive them to a harsh punishment.

25 If you should ask them, 'Who created the heavens and the earth?' They will surely answer, 'God.' Say, 'Praise be to God!' But most of them do not understand. 26 Whatever is in the heavens and the earth belongs to God. Assuredly, God is self-sufficient and praiseworthy. 27 If all the trees on earth were pens, and the sea [were] ink, with seven [more] seas added to it, the words of God would not be exhausted: for, truly, God is Almighty and Wise.

28 Creating and resurrecting all of you is just like creating and resurrecting a single soul. Truly, God hears all and observes all. 29 Have you not seen that God makes the night pass into the day, and makes the day pass into the night, and that He has pressed the sun and the moon into His service, each pursuing its course for an appointed term, and that God is well aware of what you do? 30 That is because God is the Truth, and what they call upon besides Him is falsehood. God is the Most High, the Supreme One.

31 Have you not seen how the ships sail on the sea by God's grace so that He may show you some of His signs? Surely therein are signs for every steadfast, thankful person. 32 When the waves engulf them like shadows [of death], they call to God, sincere [at that moment] in their faith in Him alone: but as soon as He has brought them safe ashore, only some of them take the right course. And none denies Our signs save the perfidious and ungrateful person.

33 O men, seek protection with your Lord and fear the Day when neither will the father be of any avail to his son, nor will the son

be of any avail to his father. God's promise is surely true. So let not worldly life beguile you, nor let the Deceiver deceive you concerning God. 34 Truly, God alone has knowledge of the Hour. He sends down the rain, and He knows what is in the wombs. No soul knows what it will earn tomorrow, and no soul knows in what land it will die. Surely, God is all knowing, all-aware.

32. PROSTRATION

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Alif Lam Mim*

2 This Book has beyond all doubt been revealed by the Lord of the Universe. 3 Do they say, 'He has invented it himself.'? No indeed! It is the truth from your Lord to warn a people to whom, before you, no warner came, so that hopefully they may be rightly guided.

4 It was God who created the heavens and the earth and whatsoever is in between in six Days, and then He established Himself on the throne. You have no patron nor any intercessor besides Him. So will you not pay heed? 5 He directs all affairs from heaven to earth. Then all will again ascend to Him on a Day whose length is a thousand years by the way you measure. 6 Such is the Knower of the unseen and the visible, the Powerful, the Merciful, 7 who gave everything its perfect form. He originated the creation of man from clay, 8 then He made his progeny from an extract of a humble fluid. 9 Then He moulded him; He breathed His Spirit into him; He gave you hearing, sight, and hearts. How seldom you are grateful!

10 They say, 'When we are lost in the earth, how can we then be recreated?' Indeed, they deny

they will ever meet their Lord.
11 Say, ‘The Angel of Death who
has been given charge of you
will gather in your souls. Then
you will [all] be returned to your
Lord.’ 12 If only you could see
the evil-doers hanging their heads
in shame before their Lord, ‘Our
Lord, we have seen and we have
heard, so send us back again and
we will act rightly. For we do
indeed now believe.’ 13 Yet had
We so willed, We could indeed
have imposed Our guidance upon
every human being: but My word
shall come true: ‘I will fill Hell
with jinns and men all together.’
14 We shall say to them, ‘Taste
this—for you forgot you would
ever meet this Day. We too
will forget you—taste the
chastisement of Eternity for your
[evil] deeds!’ 15 The people who
truly believe in Our messages
are those who fall to the ground
in prostration when they are
reminded of them, and glorify
their Lord with praise and are
not arrogant. 16 They forsake their
beds, calling upon their Lord in
fear and in hope, and spend out
of what We have provided them
with. 17 No soul knows what joy
is kept hidden in store for them
as a reward for their labours.

18 So, is someone who believes
equal to someone who defies
God? No, they are not equal.
19 Those who believe and do
good deeds shall be lodged in
the Gardens of Paradise as a
reward for what they have done.
20 As for those who defy God,
their home shall be the Fire.
Whenever they try to escape it,
they shall be driven back into it,
and they shall be told, ‘Taste the
torment of the Fire, which you
have persistently denied.’ 21 And
most surely We will make them
taste a lesser punishment before
the greater punishment, so that
perhaps they may return to Us in
repentance. 22 Who does greater
wrong than someone who, when
revelations of his Lord are recited
to him, turns away from them?
We shall inflict retribution on
the guilty.

23 We gave Moses the
Scripture—so [Muhammad] do
not doubt that you are receiving

it—just as We made it a guide
for the Children of Israel. 24 We
appointed leaders from among
them, guiding by Our command
when they were steadfast and
when they had firm faith in Our
signs. 25 Surely your Lord will
judge between them on the Day
of Resurrection concerning that
wherein they used to differ.
26 Does it not guide them [to see]
how many generations We
destroyed before them, among
whose ruined dwellings they now
walk about? There truly are signs
in this—will they not listen?

27 Have they not seen that We
drive the water to the barren
land and produce thereby
crops of which their cattle
and they themselves eat? Will
they not then see? 28 And they
say, 'When will this judgement
come, if you are telling the truth?'
29 Say, 'On the Day of Judgement
it will be of no benefit to
those who were bent on
denying the truth, if they [then]
believe! They will be granted no
respite.' 30 So turn away from
them and wait. They too
are waiting.

33. THE CONFEDERATES

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 O Prophet, have fear of God
and do not yield to those who
deny the truth and the hypocrites.
God is all-knowing and all-wise.
2 Follow what is revealed to you
from your Lord. God is aware of
all that you do. 3 Put your trust
in God; God is sufficient as a
Guardian.

4 God has not placed two hearts
in any man's body, nor has He
made your wives—from whom
you keep away by saying, 'Be as
my mother's back'—your [real]
mothers, neither He has made
your adopted sons as your own
sons. These are merely words
which you utter with your
mouths: but God speaks the truth
and gives guidance to the right

path. 5 Call them after their own fathers; that is closer to justice in the sight of God. If you do not know their fathers, regard them as your brothers in faith and your protégés. You will not be blamed if you make a mistake, you will be held accountable only for what in your hearts you have done intentionally. God is forgiving and merciful.

6 The Prophet has a higher claim on the believers than [they have on] their own selves, and his wives are their mothers. Blood relatives are closer to one another in God's Book than are believers and the Emigrants except that you want to show your friends a kindness. That is decreed in the Book.

7 We took a solemn pledge from the prophets, from you and Noah, Abraham, Moses and Jesus, the son of Mary—We took a solemn pledge from all of them. 8 So that God might ask those men of truth as to [what response] their truthfulness [had received on earth]. But for those who deny the truth, He has prepared a woeful punishment.

9 You who have attained to faith, remember God's blessings upon you when mighty armies massed against you. We sent a violent wind against them and hosts that you could not see. God sees all that you do. 10 When they came against you both from above you and from below you, your eyes rolled [with fear] and your hearts leapt up to your throats, and you entertained [ill] thoughts about God. 11 There the faithful were put to the proof and they were shaken as if by an earthquake.

12 The hypocrites and people with sickness in their hearts said, 'God and His Messenger have promised us nothing but delusions.' 13 Others said, 'People of Yathrib, you cannot withstand [the enemy] here: so go back!' Yet others asked leave of the Prophet, saying, 'Our houses are exposed and [defenceless].' They were in truth not exposed: they only wished to flee. 14 If their town had been

stormed, and they had been incited to sedition, they would have rebelled with little hesitation. [15] They had already vowed before God that they would never turn their backs: and a vow made to God must be answered for. [16] Say, 'Flight shall not avail you: if you manage to escape from death or killing, you will enjoy life only for a short while.'[a] [17] Say, 'Who is there to shield you from God if He wishes to harm you? If God wishes to show you mercy, who can prevent Him.' Besides God they shall find none to protect them, and none to bring them succour.

[18] God knows exactly who among you hold the others back, who say to their brethren, 'Come over to our side,' and they seldom take part in the fighting. [19] Begrudging you all help, but when danger comes, you can see them looking at you with rolling eyes as if in their death throes; but once their fear has passed, they come to you and do glib-talking in their greed for wealth. Such men have no faith, so God has foiled their actions. This is indeed easy for God. [20] They thought the confederate tribes would never withdraw. Indeed, if the confederates should come again, they would prefer to be in the desert, among the Bedouins. There they would ask news of you [from a distance]. But if they were with you, they would take very little part in the fighting.

[21] You have indeed in the Prophet of God a good example for those of you who look to God and the Last Day, and remember God always. [22] When the believers saw the confederates, they said, 'This is what God and His Messenger have promised us. Surely the promise of God and His Messenger has come true.' It served to increase them in faith and submission. [23] Among the believers there are men who have been true to the pledge they made with God. Among them are such as have fulfilled their vow, and some

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

who [still] wait, without having
changed [their resolve] in the
least. 24 God will surely reward
the truthful for their truthfulness
and punish the hypocrites, if He
so wishes, or He may accept
their repentance, for God is
forgiving and merciful.

25 God turned back those who
denied the truth in their rage,
without their having gained any
advantage. God was enough to
[protect] the believers in battle.
God is strong and all-powerful.
26 He brought down from their
strongholds those People of the
Book who supported the
aggressors and filled their hearts
with terror. Some of them you
killed and others you took
captive. 27 He made you heirs to
their lands, and their houses, and
their possessions and lands on
which you had not set foot before.
God has power over all things.

28 O Prophet, say to your wives,
'If you seek the life of this world
and all its finery then come, I
will make provision for you, and
release you honourably. 29 But if
you seek God and His Messenger
and the abode of the Hereafter,
then know that God has prepared
a great reward for those of you
who do good deeds.' 30 Wives of
the Prophet! Any one of you who
commits a flagrant act of
misconduct shall be doubly
punished. That is easy enough
for God.

31 But those of you who obey
God and His Messenger and do
good deeds, shall be doubly
rewarded. For them We have
made an excellent provision.
32 Wives of the Prophet, you are
not like any other women. If you
fear God, do not be too soft-
spoken in case the ill-intentioned
should feel tempted. Speak in an
appropriate manner.

33 Stay in your homes and do
not flaunt your charms as in the
former times of ignorance.
Attend to your prayers, pay the
zakat and obey God and His
Messenger. Women of the
[Prophet's] Household, God
seeks only to remove all impurity
from you, and to make you
completely pure. 34 Bear in mind
all that is recited in your homes

of the revelations of God and of
wisdom. God is all pervading
and all aware.

35 Surely, for men and women
who have surrendered [to God]—
believing men and believing
women, obedient men and
obedient women, truthful men
and truthful women, patient men
and patient women, humble men
and humble women, charitable
men and charitable women,
fasting men and fasting women,
men and women who guard their
chastity, men and women who
are ever mindful of God—God
is ready with forgiveness and an
immense reward. 36 It is not
fitting for a believing man or
woman to exercise any choice in
his or her own affairs once God
and His Messenger have reached
a decision upon them. Anyone
who disobeys God and His
Messenger is in manifest error.

37 You said to the man who
had been favoured by God and
by you, 'Keep your wife to
yourself and have fear of God.'
You sought to hide in your heart
what God wished to reveal. You
were afraid of people, whereas it
would have been more proper to
fear God. When Zayd divorced
his wife, We gave her to you in
marriage, so that there should be
no restriction on believers
marrying the spouses of their
adopted sons when they
have divorced them. The
commandment of God must be
fulfilled. 38 No blame shall be
attached to the Prophet for doing
what is sanctioned for him by
God. This was God's way with
those who went before him—
and the command of God is a
decree determined. 39 Those who
conveyed God's messages and
fear Him only: God suffices as a
reckoner. 40 Muhammad is not
the father of any of your men,
but is God's Messenger and the
seal of the Prophets. God has
knowledge of all things.

41 Believers, remember God
often. 42 Glorify Him morning
and evening. 43 It is He who
sends blessings to you, as do His
angels, so that He may bring you
out of the darkness into the light.
He is most merciful to the

believers. 44 On the Day they
meet Him, they will be welcomed
with the greeting, ‘Peace!’ He
has prepared an honourable
reward for them.

45 O Prophet, We have sent
forth you as a witness, as a
bearer of good news and a warner.
46 As one who calls people to
God by His leave, and guides
them like a shining light.
47 Convey to the believers the
good news that God has
bounteous blessings in store for
them. 48 Do not yield to those
who deny the truth and the
hypocrites: ignore their hurtful
talk. Put your trust in God; God
is your all sufficient guardian.

49 Believers, if you marry
believing women, and divorce
them before the marriage is
consummated, you are not
required to observe a waiting
period: make provision for them
and release them in an
honourable way.

50 Prophet, We have made
lawful for you the wives to whom
you have given their dowers, as
well as those whom your right
hand possesses from among the
captives of war whom God has
bestowed upon you. and [We
have made lawful to you] the
daughters of your paternal uncles
and aunts, and the daughters of
your maternal uncles and aunts,
who have migrated with you;
and any believing woman who
gives herself to the Prophet,
provided the Prophet wants to
marry her. This applies only to
you and not to the rest of the
believers. We know what We
have prescribed for them
concerning their wives and those
whom their right hands may
possess, in order that there may
be no blame on you. God is most
forgiving, most merciful.

51 You may defer [the turn of]
any of them that you please, and
you may receive any you please:
and there is no blame on you if
you invite one whose [turn] you
have set aside. That is more
proper, so that their eyes may be
cooled, and so that they may not
grieve, and so that they will be
satisfied with what you have
given them. God knows what is

in your hearts; and God is all knowing, and forbearing. [52] It is not lawful for you to marry more women after this, nor to change them for other wives, even though their beauty may please you, except any that your right hand possesses. God is watchful over all things.

[53] Believers, do not enter the houses of the Prophet, unless you are invited for a meal. Do not linger until a meal is ready. When you are invited enter and when you have taken your meal, depart. Do not stay on, indulging in conversation. Doing that causes annoyance to the Prophet, though he is too reticent to tell you so, but God is not reticent with the truth. When you ask [the wives of the Prophet] for anything, ask them from behind a curtain. That will be purer for your hearts as well as their hearts. It is not right for you to cause annoyance to the Messenger of God or for you ever to marry his wives after him. Indeed that would be an enormity in the sight of God. [54] Whether you reveal anything or hide it, God is aware of everything.

[55] There shall be no blame on them for appearing before their fathers, their sons, their brothers, their brothers' sons, their sisters' sons, their women or those whom their right hands may possess. Women, fear God. God observes all things.

[56] God and His angels bestow blessings on the Prophet. O believers, you also should invoke blessings on him and give him greetings of peace. [57] Those who annoy God and His Messenger shall be cursed by God in this world and in the Hereafter. God has prepared for them a humiliating punishment. [58] Those who affront believing men and believing women without their having deserved it [done any wrong] shall bear the weight of slander and flagrant sin.

[59] O Prophet! Tell your wives and your daughters and wives of the believers that they should draw over themselves some of their outer garments [when in

public], so as to be recognized and not harmed. God is most forgiving and most merciful. 60 If the hypocrites and those who have tainted hearts and the scandal mongers of Madinah do not desist, We shall surely give you authority over them and their days in that city will be numbered. 61 Accursed, wherever they are found, they will be seized and killed.[a] 62 Such has been God's way with those who have gone before them. You shall find no change in the ways of God.

63 People will ask you about the Hour. Say, 'God alone has knowledge of it. Who knows? The Hour may well be near at hand.' 64 God has rejected those who deny the truth and prepared for them a blazing Fire. 65 There they will live forever, and they will find therein neither friend nor helper. 66 On the Day when their faces are turned over in the Fire, they shall say: 'Oh, would that we had obeyed God, and obeyed the Messenger!' 67 They shall say, 'Our Lord, we paid heed to our leaders and our elders, but they led us away from the right path. 68 Our Lord, give them double punishment and curse them with a mighty curse.'

69 Believers, do not behave like those who slandered Moses. God cleared him of their allegations. He was honourable in the sight of God. 70 Believers, fear God, and say the right word. 71 He will bless your works for you and forgive you your sins. Whoever obeys God and His Messenger has indeed achieved a great success.

72 We offered the Trust to the heavens and the earth and the mountains, but they refused to bear it, because they were afraid of it. But man bore it: he surely proved unjust and ignorant. 73 God will punish the hypocrites, both men and women, and polytheists, both men and women, but God will turn in His mercy to believing men and believing women; God is most forgiving and most merciful.

---

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

34. SHEBA

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Praise be to God, to whom
belongs all that the heavens and
the earth contain and praise be to
Him in the Hereafter. He is the
All Wise, the All Aware. 2 He
knows whatever goes into the
earth and whatever comes forth
from it, and whatever descends
from heaven and whatever
ascends into it. He is the
Merciful, the Forgiving.

3 Those who deny the truth
declare, 'The Hour will never
come upon us.' Say, 'Yes, by my
Lord, it will surely come upon
you! Who knows the unseen.
Not the smallest particle in the
heavens or the earth, or anything
less or greater than that escapes
Him; all is recorded in an open
Book. 4 He will surely reward
those who believe and do good
deeds: they shall have
forgiveness and an honourable
provision.' 5 But those who strive
against Our signs, trying to defeat
them, will suffer a painful
torment. 6 Those who have been
given knowledge know that what
has been revealed to you from
your Lord is the truth, and that it
guides to the path of the
Almighty, the Praiseworthy.

7 Those who deny the truth
say, 'Shall we point out to you a
man who will tell you that when
you are broken up into particles,
you will be put together again in
a new creation? 8 Has he invented
a lie about God, or is he afflicted
with madness?' Indeed no. It is
those who do not believe in the
Hereafter who will suffer torment,
for they have strayed far into
error. 9 Do they not observe how
they are encompassed by what is
before them and what is behind
them in heaven and on earth? We
could, if We pleased, cause the
earth to swallow them up, or
cause a piece of the sky to fall
upon them. In that certainly there
is a sign for every servant of
Ours who turns to us.

10 We bestowed upon David
great favour. We said, ‘O
mountains and birds! Join with
him in celebrating Our praise.’
We softened iron for him, saying,
11 ‘Make full-length coats of
mail, measuring the links well.
And do righteous deeds. Surely,
I see all that you do.’

12 We subjected the wind to
Solomon; its morning course was
a month and its evening course a
month; and We caused a fount of
molten copper to flow for him.
And of the jinn there were some
who worked under him, by the
command of his Lord. If any one
of them turned away from Our
command, We would make him
taste the punishment of the
burning fire. 13 They made for
him whatever he desired: palaces
and statues, basins like
reservoirs, and large cooking
vessels fixed in their places. We
said, ‘Give thanks, house of
David, for few of My servants
are truly grateful.’

14 When We decreed Solomon’s
death, nothing indicated his
death to them except
a worm from the earth,
which was eating away at his
cane. When he fell down, the
jinn plainly realized that if
they had known what was
unseen, they would not have
had to continue with such
humiliating labour.

15 For the people of Sheba
there was a sign in their
homeland: two gardens, one on
the right hand and the other on
the left. We said to them: ‘Eat
what your Lord has provided for
you, and be grateful. You have a
good land and a Lord most
forgiving.’ 16 Yet they turned
away [from the truth]. So We let
loose on them a flood from the
dam and replaced their two
gardens by two others bearing
bitter fruits, tamarisks, and a few
lote trees. 17 We requited them in
that way because of their
ingratitude. We requite no one in
that way but the ungrateful.

18 We had placed between them
and the towns that We had
blessed, other towns situated close
to each other, and We fixed the
stages [of journey] between them,

saying, 'Travel between them in safety by night and day,' 19 but they said, 'Our Lord! Make the stages of our journeys longer.' Thus they wronged themselves and We made them bygone tales and scattered them throughout the land. There are certainly signs in that for everyone who is steadfast and thankful.

20 Satan was correct in his assessment of them and they all followed him—except for a band of true believers—21 but he had no authority over them; We only desired to distinguish those who believed in the Hereafter from those who were in doubt concerning it. Your Lord is watchful over all things.

22 Call upon those whom you set up beside God! They possess not an atom's weight either in the heavens or on the earth, nor have they any share in either, nor has He any helpers among them. 23 No intercession avails with Him, except on the part of one to whom He grants permission. When their hearts are relieved of fear, they will enquire from those to whom permission is granted, 'What has your Lord said?' They will answer, 'The truth. He is the Most High, the Supreme One.'

24 Ask them, 'Who provides sustenance for you from the heavens and the earth?' Say, 'It is God'; either you or we are rightly guided or in manifest error.' 25 Say to them, 'You will not be called to account for our sins and we shall not be called to account for what you do.' 26 Tell them, 'Our Lord will gather us together; then He will judge between us with truth and justice. He is the Just Decider, the All Knowing.' 27 Say to them, 'Show me those whom you have joined with Him as partners. No indeed! For He alone is God, the Mighty One, the Wise One.'

28 We have sent you as a bearer of glad tidings and a warner for the whole of mankind, but most people have no knowledge. 29 They ask, 'When will this promise be fulfilled, if you are truthful?' 30 Say, 'A Day has already been appointed for you which you can

neither delay nor advance by a
single moment.'
31 Those who deny the truth
say, 'We shall believe neither in
this scripture nor in [any] that
[came] before it.' Could you but
see when the wrongdoers will be
made to stand before their Lord,
casting blame on one another!
Those who had been weak will
say to the arrogant ones, 'Had it
not been for you, we should
certainly have been believers!'
32 The haughty ones will then
reply to the weak ones, 'Did we
keep you away from the guidance
when it came to you? Indeed not.
You yourselves were the guilty
ones.' 33 Those deemed weak will
say to those deemed great, 'No,
it was your scheming night and
day when you commanded us to
reject God and assign equals to
Him.' But they will show their
remorse when they see the
punishment. We will put iron
collars round the necks of those
who had been bent on denying
the truth. They will be requited
only in proportion to their
misdeeds.
34 For it has been thus
whenever We sent a warner to
any community. Its affluent ones
said, 'We reject what you have
been sent with.' 35 They say, 'We
have more wealth and children;
and we are surely not going to be
punished.' 36 Say to them, 'My
Lord increases the provision for
whoever He pleases and
decreases it for whoever He
pleases; but most people do not
know it.' 37 It is not your wealth
or your children that will confer
on you nearness to Us. It is those
who believe and act righteously
who will be doubly rewarded for
their good deeds, and will dwell
in peace in the high pavilions [of
paradise], 38 while those who
strive to thwart Our messages,
seeking to defeat their purpose,
shall be summoned to
punishment. 39 Say to them, 'It is
my Lord who increases the
provision for such of His servants
as He pleases, and decreases it
for such of them as He pleases.
Whatever you spend, He will
recompense you for it. He is the
best of providers.'

[40] On the Day when He gathers
them all together, He will ask the
angels, 'Was it you that these
people worshipped?' [41] They will
say, 'Glory be to You! You are
our protector, not them. Indeed
no! They worshipped the jinn; it
was in them that most of them
believed.' [42] Today you possess
no power to benefit or harm one
another. We shall say to the
wrongdoers, 'Suffer the
punishment of the Fire that you
persistently denied.'

[43] Whenever Our messages are
conveyed to them in all their
clarity, they say, 'This
[Muhammad] is nothing but a
man who wants to turn you away
from what your forefathers
worshipped.' And they say, 'This
[Quran] is nothing but an
invented falsehood.' And they
who are bent on denying the
truth speak thus of the truth
when it comes to them, 'This is
clearly nothing but plain sorcery!'
[44] We had not given them books
to study, nor have We sent them
a warner before you. [45] Their
predecessors also rejected the
truth. These have not attained to
one tenth of the power that We
had bestowed upon the earlier
people. But they rejected My
messengers. Then how terrible,
was My chastisement!

[46] Say to them, 'I exhort you to
do one thing: and that is to stand
up before God in pairs, or singly,
and then reflect. You will thus
realize that your companion is
not afflicted with madness. He is
only a warner, warning you of an
impending severe chastisement.'
[47] Say, 'If I have asked you for
any recompense, you can keep it.
It is God alone who will reward
me: He is the witness of all things.'

[48] Say to them, 'My Lord hurls
forth the Truth [at falsehood]
and He is the knower of hidden
things.' [49] Say to them, 'The Truth
has come and will endure.
Falsehood has no power to
originate any good, nor to
reproduce it.' [50] Affirm, 'If I am
in error, I shall carry the burden
thereof; and if I am rightly guided,
it is because of what my Lord has
revealed to me. Truly, He is all-
hearing and near at hand.'

51 If you could only see when
those who denied the truth are
terrified, and there is no way out,
and they are seized from a place
nearby; 52 then they will say, 'We
now believe in Him.' But how
will they attain to faith, having
gone so far away from it? 53 They
had rejected it before, while they
indulged in conjectures from far
away. 54 And between them
and their desires a barrier shall
be placed as was done in the
past with people of their
ilk; for they were indeed in
disquieting doubt.

35. THE CREATOR

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 All praise be to God, Creator of
the heavens and the earth, who
made the angels His messengers,
with wings—two, or three, or
four pairs. He adds to His creation
whatever He wills; for God has
the power to will anything. 2 No
one can withhold the blessings
God bestows upon people, nor
can anyone apart from Him
bestow whatever He withholds:
He is the Almighty, the Wise
One.

3 People, remember God's
favour to you. Is there any creator
other than God who provides for
you from the heavens and the
earth? There is no God save
Him. How then are you turned
away from the truth. 4 If they
reject you, other messengers have
been rejected before you. To
God all affairs will be returned.

5 O Men. The promise of God
is true.[a] Let not the life of this

---

[a] Sudden death, the upheaval of earthquakes and other such incidents shake a man's composure. These, in fact, remind one of Doomsday, before its actual occurrence. But, Satan immediately diverts the attention of the people by saying that these events have natural causes and are not due to any divine intervention.

world deceive you, nor let the Deceiver deceive you about God. 6 Surely Satan is your enemy: so treat him as an enemy: he calls on his followers only so that they should become inmates of the burning Fire. 7 Those who are bent on denying the truth will have a severe punishment, while those who believe and do good deeds will have forgiveness and a great reward.

8 Is he whose evil deeds are made alluring to him so that he looks upon them as good, [equal to the man who is rightly guided]? God leaves to stray whom He wills, and guides whom He wills. Do not destroy yourself with grief for them. God has full knowledge of all their actions.

9 It is God who sends forth the winds so that they raise up the clouds. We drive them to a dead land, and by them bring the earth to life after its death. Such is the Resurrection. 10 If anyone seeks glory, let him know that glory belongs to God alone. Good words ascend to Him and righteous deeds are exalted by Him. Those who plot evil deeds shall be sternly punished and their plotting will come to nothing. 11 God has created you from dust, then from a drop of semen and then divided you into pairs; no female conceives or gives birth without His knowledge; and no one's life is prolonged or shortened, but it is recorded in a Book. That surely is easy for God.

12 The two seas are not alike. The one is sweet, thirst-quenching, and pleasant to drink from, while the other is salty and bitter. Yet from each you eat fresh fish and extract ornaments to wear, and in each you see the ships ploughing through the waves so that you may seek His bounty and so that you may feel thankful. 13 He makes the night pass into the day and He makes the day pass into the night. He has subjected the sun and the moon, each running for an appointed term. Such is God, your Lord: His is the kingdom. Those whom you invoke besides

Him do not own so much as the
skin of a date stone; 14 if you
invoke them, they do not hear
your call; and even if they could
hear, they would not respond to
you. And on the Day of
Resurrection they will disown
your having associated them with
God. No one can tell you [the
Truth] like the One who is all
knowing.

15 O men! It is you who stand
in need of God—God is self-
sufficient, and praiseworthy—
16 if He so wished, He could take
you away and replace you with a
new creation; 17 that is not
difficult for God. 18 No burden-
bearer shall bear another's
burden, and if some over-laden
soul should call out for someone
else to carry his load, not the
least portion of it will be borne
for him, even though he were a
near relative. You can only warn
those who fear their Lord in the
unseen, and pray regularly.
Anyone who purifies himself
will benefit greatly from doing
so. To God all shall return.

19 The blind and the sighted
are not equal, 20 nor are the
darkness and the light; 21 shade
and heat are not alike, 22 nor are
the living and the dead. God
causes whom He will to hear
Him, but you cannot make those
who are in their graves hear you.
23 You are but a warner—24 We
have sent you with the truth as a
bearer of good news and a
warner—there is no community
to which a warner has not come.
25 If they reject you, so did their
predecessors. Messengers came
to them with clear signs, with
scriptures, and with the
enlightening Book, 26 but in the
end I seized those who were bent
on denying the truth and how
terrible was My punishment.

27 Did you not see how God
sent down water from the sky
with which We bring forth fruit
of diverse colours. In the
mountains there are streaks of
various shades of white and red,
and jet-black rocks; 28 in like
manner, men, beasts, and cattle
have their diverse hues too. Only
those of His servants, who
possess knowledge, fear God.

God is almighty and most forgiving.

[29] Those who read the Book of God and attend to their prayers and spend in charity in private and in public out of what We have provided them, may hope for a commerce that suffers no loss. [30] He will give them their full rewards and give them more out of His bounty. He is forgiving and appreciative. [31] The Book which We have revealed to you is the truth confirming previous scriptures. God knows and observes His servants.

[32] We have bestowed the Book on those of Our servants whom We have chosen. Some wrong their own souls, some keep half-way [between right and wrong]; some, by God's leave, excel others in good deeds. This is a great bounty of God: [33] they shall enter the Gardens of Eternity, where they shall be adorned with bracelets of gold and pearls, and wear silk garments. [34] They will say, 'Praise be to God who has taken away all sorrow from us. Our Lord is forgiving and appreciative. [35] Through His grace He has admitted us to the everlasting Abode, where neither toil nor weariness affects us.'

[36] Those who deny the truth shall remain in the fire of Hell. Death will not be decreed for them, so that they could escape by way of death, nor will its torment ever be eased for them. Thus do We requite every ungrateful person. [37] There they will cry out, 'Lord, take us out! We shall do good deeds, and behave differently from the way we used to.' But He will answer, 'Did We not make your life long enough to take warning if you were going to? The warner did come to you. So now have a taste of the punishment.' Wrongdoers will have no supporter.

[38] God knows the hidden reality of the heavens and the earth. He has full knowledge of what is in the hearts of men; [39] it is He who has made you inherit the earth. He who denies Him shall bear the burden of his denial. God's displeasure with

the deniers will only be increased by their denial of the truth, it will only increase their loss.[a]

40 Say, 'Have you ever considered your associate gods whom you call on besides God? Show me what it is that they have created on earth. Or have they a share in the creation of the heavens?' Or have We given them a book so that they may act on evidence from it? Indeed, the wrongdoers' promises to one another are nothing but deception.
41 Surely, God holds the heavens and the earth, lest they should deviate [from their places]. Were they to deviate, none could hold them after Him. Surely, He is forbearing and most forgiving.

42 They swore their most solemn oaths that if a warner should ever come to them, they would be better guided than any other community. But when a warner did come to them, it only
increased their aversion, 43 and
they behaved arrogantly in the land and plotted evil. But the plotting of evil only rebounds on those who plot. Are they but looking for the way the previous peoples [sinners] were dealt with? You will never find any change in the ways of God; nor will you ever find God's decree
averted. 44 Have they not travelled
around the earth and seen the fate of those who preceded them? And they were far superior to them in strength. Nothing in the heavens or the earth can ever frustrate God's [plans]. He is all-knowing and all powerful.

45 If God were to take men to task for their misdeeds, He would not leave a single living creature on the surface of the earth; but He grants them respite until an appointed time; and when their appointed time comes, then they will know that God is indeed observant of all His servants.

---

[a] In this verse, being given 'the earth to inherit' (*khalifah*) means that 'after the advent of the previous nations, you were settled on the earth in their place'. It is the way of Almighty God that He allows a nation the opportunity to settle and make progress on the earth. Then, when it proves itself incapable, He replaces it by another nation.

36. *YA SIN*

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Ya Sin*

2 By the Quran, full of wisdom,
3 you are indeed one of the
messengers 4 on a straight path,
5 with a revelation sent down by
the Mighty One, the Merciful,
6 so that you may warn a people
whose fathers were not warned
and so they are unaware.
7 The word has been proved
true against the greater part of
them: they will not believe. 8 We
have put yokes round their necks
right up to their chins, so that
they cannot bow their heads 9 and
We have set a barrier before
them and a barrier behind them,
and We have covered them up so
that they cannot see. 10 It makes
no difference to them whether
you warn them or do not warn
them: they will not believe.
11 You can warn only those who
would follow the Reminder
and fear the Gracious God,
unseen. Give them the good
news of forgiveness and a noble
reward.
12 We shall surely bring the
dead back to life and We record
what they send ahead and what
they leave behind. We have
recorded everything in a clear
book.
13 Recount to them the example
of the people to whose town Our
messengers came. 14 When We
sent them two messengers, they
rejected them both, so We
strengthened them with a third.
They said, 'Truly, we have
been sent to you [by God] as
messengers.' 15 They replied,
'You are nothing but mortal men
like us and the Merciful God has
not revealed anything. You are
surely lying.' 16 They said, 'Our
Lord knows that we have been
sent to you. 17 And our duty is
only to convey the message to
you clearly,' 18 but they answered,
'We see an evil omen in you. If
you do not stop, we shall certainly

stone you, and you will suffer a
painful punishment at our hands.'
19 They said, 'Your evil augury
be with you! Is it because you are
admonished about the truth?
Surely, you are a people
transgressing all bounds!'

20 Then, from the furthest part
of the city, a man came running.
He said, 'My people, follow the
messengers. 21 Follow those who
ask no recompense of you and
are rightly guided.

22 'Why should I not worship
Him who has brought me into
being, and to whom you shall all
be recalled? 23 Shall I take others
besides Him as gods? If the
Gracious God should intend me
any harm, their intercession will
be of no avail, nor can they
deliver me. 24 In that case I should
indeed be in manifest error.
25 Indeed, I have believed in your
Lord, so listen to me.' 26 We said
to him, 'Enter paradise,' and he
exclaimed: 'Would that my
people knew 27 how my Lord has
forgiven me and placed me
among the honoured ones!'

28 After him We did not send
down against his people a host
from heaven, nor do We send
down such hosts: 29 it was but
one great blast and they fell
down lifeless. 30 Alas for human
beings! They ridicule every
messenger that comes to them.
31 Do they not see how many
generations We have destroyed
before them? Never shall they
return to them. 32 All of them,
gathered together, will certainly
be brought before Us.

33 There is a sign for them in
the lifeless earth. We revive it
and We produce grain from it of
which they eat. 34 We have placed
in it gardens of date palms and
vines, and caused springs to gush
[forth] from it, 35 so that they
may eat its fruit, though it was
not their hands that made this.
Will they not then be grateful?
36 Holy is He who created all
things in pairs; of what the earth
grows, and of themselves, and
other things which they do not
know.

37 They have a sign in the
night: We withdraw from it the
[light of] day—and they are left

in darkness. 38 The sun, too,
follows its determined course
laid down for it by the Almighty,
the All Knowing. 39 We have
ordained phases for the moon
until finally it becomes like an
old date-stalk. 40 The sun cannot
overtake the moon, nor can the
night outpace the day: each floats
in [its own] orbit.

41 Another sign for them is
that We carried their offspring in
the laden Ark. 42 We have created
for them the like of it in which
they ride. 43 If it were Our will,
We could drown them: then there
would be no helper [to hear their
cry], nor could they be saved.
44 It is only by Our mercy that
they are granted provision for a
time.

45 When they are told, 'guard
yourselves against what is before
you and what is behind you, in
order that you may be shown
mercy,' [they turn away].
46 Indeed, not one of your Lord's
signs comes to them without
their turning away from it, 47 and
when they are told, 'Give to
others out of what God has
provided for you,' those who are
bent on denying the truth say to
the believers, 'Why should we
feed those whom God could
feed if He wanted? You are
clearly in error!'

48 They say, 'When will this
promise be fulfilled, if you are
truthful?' 49 They must be waiting
for but one single blast, which
will overtake them while they
are still disputing. 50 They will
have no time to make a will, nor
shall they return to their own
people. 51 The trumpet will be
blown and, at once, they will rise
up from their graves, and hasten
to their Lord. 52 'Woe betide us!'
they will say, 'Who has roused
us from our sleep?' This is what
the Lord of Mercy promised: the
messengers spoke the truth! 53 It
will be but one blast, and they
will all be brought before Us
together.

54 On that Day no soul shall
suffer the least injustice. You
shall be rewarded only according
to your deeds. 55 The people of
Paradise shall be happily
occupied on that Day—56 they

and their wives—shall recline
on couches in the shade. 57 They
shall have fruits therein, and all
that they ask for. 58 ‘Peace!’
shall be the greeting from the
Merciful Lord.

59 [And God will say],
‘Separate yourselves from the
righteous this Day, you criminals.
60 Did I not enjoin you, sons of
Adam, not to worship Satan—
for he is your sworn enemy,
61 but to worship Me? Surely,
that is a straight path. 62 Yet he
led astray a great multitude of
you. Why did you not then
understand? 63 This is the Hell
you were promised. 64 Enter it
this Day on account of your
denial of the truth.’ 65 Today We
shall seal up their mouths and
their hands will speak to Us, and
their feet will bear witness to
their misdeeds.

66 If it had been Our will, We
could have put out their eyes.
They would have struggled to
find the way, but how could they
have seen it? 67 If it had been Our
will, We could have paralysed
them where they stood, so that
they would not be able to go
forward or turn back. 68 If We
extend anyone’s life, We reverse
his development. Can they not
use their reason? 69 We have not
taught him any poetry nor would
it be fitting for him. This is
merely a Reminder and a clear
Quran 70 to warn all who are truly
alive, and to justify the word
[God’s verdict] against the deniers.

71 Do they not see that, among
the things which Our hands have
fashioned, We have created for
them cattle of which they are the
masters, 72 We have subjected
these to them, so that some may
be used for riding and some for
food, 73 some for milk to drink
and some from which other
benefits may be received? Will
they not be grateful? 74 They
have set up other gods besides
God, hoping to be helped by
them, 75 but they are not able to
help them: rather they will be
brought before God as their allied
host. 76 Let not their words grieve
you. We have knowledge of all
that they conceal and all that
they reveal.

[77] Does not man see that We created him from a drop. Yet there he is, flagrantly contentious, [78] producing arguments against Us, and forgetting his own creation. He asks, 'Who can give life back to bones after they have rotted away?' [79] Say, 'He who brought them into being in the first instance will give them life again: He has knowledge of every type of creation: [80] He who produces fire for you from green trees and from this you kindle fire.' [81] Is He who created the heavens and earth not able to create others like these people? Of course He is! He is indeed the Supreme Creator, the All Knowing: [82] when He decrees a thing, He need only say, 'Be!' and it is. [83] So glory be to Him who has control over all things. It is to Him that you will all be brought back.

37. THE RANKS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] By those [angels] who range themselves in close ranks [2] and those who drive away [the wicked] with reproof [3] and by the reciters of the Reminder: [4] your God is One, [5] Lord of the heavens and the earth and everything between them; Lord of the Easts.

[6] We have adorned the lowest heaven with the beauty of the planets; [7] and guarded it against all rebellious devils: [8] they cannot overhear the Higher Assembly for they are pelted from every side, [9] driven away, and will suffer eternal punishment. [10] But if anyone does succeed in snatching a glimpse [of such knowledge], he shall be pursued by a piercing flame.

[11] So, ask those who deny the truth if it was harder to create them than all the other things We have created? We created them from sticky clay. [12] No wonder

you are surprised as they laugh
with scorn. 13 When they are
reminded, they do not pay heed,
14 and whenever they see some
sign, they ridicule it, 15 saying,
'This is plain sorcery!' 16 'What!
When we have died and become
dust and bones, will we be
brought back to life again,
17 along with our forefathers?'
18 Say, 'Yes indeed, and you will
be brought low.'

19 There will be but a single
blast and then their eyes will
open. 20 They will say, 'Woe to
us! This is the Day of Reckoning.'
21 [It will be said], 'This is the
Day of Judgement which you
have been denying.' 22 But We
shall say, 'Assemble those who
did wrong together with their
associates and what they
worshipped 23 besides God, and
lead them to the path of the Fire;
24 and stop them there for
questioning: 25 "But what is the
matter with you that you cannot
help one another?"'—26 indeed,
on that Day they will surrender
themselves.

27 They will turn upon one
another, and question one
another. 28 They will say, 'You
used to come at us from the
right.' 29 They will say, 'No! It
was you who would not
believe—30 we had no power
over you; but you yourselves
were a rebellious people. 31 But
now our Lord's word has come
true against us: truly, we are
bound to taste [the punishment].
32 We led you astray as we were
ourselves astray.' 33 On that Day
they will all share the
punishment: 34 that is how We
deal with evil-doers. 35 When
they were told, 'There is no deity
but God,' they turned away with
disdain, 36 and replied, 'Shall we
then give up our deities at the
bidding of a mad poet?'
37 'Surely, he has brought the
truth, confirming those who were
sent before; 38 you shall surely
taste the painful punishment,
39 and be rewarded only
according to your deeds.'

40 But the chosen servants of
God; 41 shall have a known
provision—42 fruits of various
kinds; and they shall be

honoured, 43 in the Gardens of Bliss, 44 seated on couches, facing one another. 45 A drink will be passed round among them from a flowing spring: 46 white and delicious to those who drink it, 47 causing no headiness or intoxication. 48 With them will be spouses—modest of gaze and beautiful of eye—49 like closely guarded pearls.

50 They will turn to one another with questions: 51 one of them will say, 'I had a friend, 52 who used to ask, "Do you really believe that 53 after we die and become dust and bones, we shall be brought to judgement?"' 54 Then he will say, 'Shall we look for him?' 55 Then he will look and see him in the midst of the Fire. 56 He will say, 'By God! You almost brought me to ruin! 57 If it had not been for the blessing of my Lord, I would also have been taken to Hell.' 58 Then he will say [to his blessed companions], 'Are we not going to die, 59 except for our first death? Are we not going to be punished? 60 Truly, this is a great victory!' 61 It is for the like of this that all should strive.

62 Is that better by way of hospitality or the Zaqqum tree, 63 which We have made as a test for the wrongdoers. 64 For it is a tree that springs out of the bottom of Hellfire: 65 and its fruits are like devils' heads. 66 They will eat from it and fill their bellies with it; 67 then in addition to it they shall have a draught of boiling water to drink; 68 then surely they shall return to Hell. 69 They found their fathers had gone astray; 70 so they are rushing to follow in their footsteps. 71 And assuredly many of the ancients went astray before them, 72 though We had sent warners among them. 73 See how those who were warned met their end! 74 Not so the chosen servants of God.

75 Noah cried to Us, and how excellent was Our response! 76 We saved him and his people from great distress, 77 and We made his offspring the only survivors. 78 We left mention of him among later generations.

79 Peace be upon Noah among
all the peoples! 80 That is how
We recompense the righteous:
81 he was truly one of Our faithful
servants. 82 We drowned the rest.

83 Abraham was of the same
faith: 84 he came to his Lord with
a sound heart. 85 'Behold!' he
said to his father and to his
people, 'What are these that you
worship? 86 Would you serve
false deities instead of God?
87 What do you think of the Lord
of the Worlds?'

88 He looked up at the stars.
89 And said, 'I am sick,' 90 so
they turned their backs on him
and went off. 91 He turned to
their gods and said, 'Do you not
eat? 92 What is the matter with
you that you do not speak?'
93 then he turned on them, striking
them down with his right hand.
94 His people came rushing
towards him, 95 but he said, 'How
can you worship things you carve
with your own hands, 96 when it
is God who has created you and
all your handiwork?' 97 They
said, 'Build a pyre for him and
throw him into the blaze!' 98 They
wanted to harm him, but We
humiliated them all. 99 He said,
'I will go to my Lord: He is sure
to guide me. 100 Lord, grant me a
righteous son.' 101 We gave him
the good news that he would
have a patient, forbearing son.

102 And when he reached the
age when he could work with
him, he said, 'O my son, I have
seen in a dream that I am
sacrificing you. So tell me what
you think of it!' He replied, 'O
my father, do as you are
commanded; and God willing,
you will find me steadfast.'
103 When they had both submitted
to God, and he had laid his son
down on his face, 104 We called
out to him, 'Abraham, 105 you
have fulfilled the dream.' It is
thus indeed that We reward those
who do good—106 that surely was
a manifest trial—107 We
ransomed him with a great
sacrifice, 108 and left him thus to
be succeeded by a group [of
followers] among later
generations: 109 'Peace and
salutation to Abraham!' 110 That
is how We recompense the

righteous: 111 truly, he was one
of Our faithful servants. 112 We
gave Abraham the good news of
Isaac—a prophet and a righteous
man—113 and blessed him and
Isaac too: some of their offspring
were good, but some clearly
sinned against their souls.

114 We also bestowed Our
favour on Moses and Aaron:
115 We saved them and their
people from great distress; 116 and
We helped them, so that they
were victorious; 117 and We gave
them the Book which helps to
make things clear; 118 and guided
them to the straight path; 119 and
We left them thus to be succeeded
by a group [of followers] among
later generations: 120 'Peace be
upon Moses and Aaron!' 121 This
is how We reward those who do
good: 122 truly they were among
Our faithful servants.

123 Elijah too was one of the
messengers. 124 He said to his
people, 'Have you no fear [of
God?] 125 Do you call on Baal
and abandon the Best of Creators,
126 God your Lord and Lord of
your forefathers?' 127 but they
rejected him, and thus will
certainly be called to account;
128 except the chosen servants of
God. 129 We left him thus to be
succeeded by a group [of
followers] among the following
generations—130 'Peace be on
Elijah and his people!' 131 It is
thus indeed that We reward those
who do good: 132 surely he was
one of Our believing servants.

133 Lot was also one of the
messengers. 134 We saved him
and all his people—135 except
for an old woman who stayed
behind—136 and We destroyed
the rest. 137 You pass by their
ruins morning 138 and night: will
you not take heed?

139 Jonah too was one of the
messengers. 140 He fled to the
overloaded ship. 141 And then
they cast lots and he was the one
who lost, 142 and the fish
swallowed him while he was
blaming himself. 143 Had he not
been one of those who
acknowledge the glory of God,
144 he would certainly have
remained inside the fish till the
Day of Resurrection. 145 But We

caused him to be cast forth on to
the beach, sick as he was, 146 and
We caused a gourd tree to grow
over him. 147 We sent him as a
messenger to a hundred thousand
people or more, 148 and they
believed in him: so We let them
live in ease for a while.

149 Now ask them whether your
Lord has daughters, whereas they
have sons. 150 Did We create the
angels females, to which they
were witnesses? 151 No indeed!
It is one of their fabrications
when they say: 152 'God has
begotten children.' They are truly
liars. 153 Has He chosen
daughters over sons? 154 What is
the matter with you? How do
you form your judgement?
155 Will you not then reflect?
156 Or have you clear evidence?
157 Then produce your scriptures,
if you are telling the truth.

158 They claim that He has
kinship with the jinn, yet the
jinn themselves know that they
will be produced before Him
[for judgement]. 159 God is far
above what they attribute to
Him—160 but not so the true
servants of God—161 neither you
nor what you worship 162 can
lure away from God any
163 except those who will burn in
Hell. 164 [The angels say], 'Every
single one of us has his place
assigned: 165 we are those who
stand ranged in ranks. 166 We
glorify God.'

167 They say, 168 'If we had had
with us a Book like that of the
people of old, 169 we would surely
have been God's chosen
servants,' 170 but they have
rejected it, [the Quran] and they
shall soon learn! 171 And surely
Our word has gone forth
respecting Our servants, the
messengers: 172 that it is certainly
they who will be helped; 173 and
that it is Our host that would
certainly triumph. 174 So turn
away from them for a while.
175 Watch them: they will
soon see.

176 Do they really wish to
hasten Our punishment?
177 When it descends on their
courtyards, how terrible that
morning will be for those who
were warned! 178 So turn away

from them for a while. [179] And watch, for they will soon see. [180] Glory be to your Lord: the Lord of Glory is far above what they attribute to Him. [181] Peace be upon the Messengers [182] and praise be to God, the Lord of all the Worlds.

38. *SAD*

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] *Sad*

By the Quran, full of admonition! [2] Those who deny the truth are steeped in arrogance and hostility. [3] How many generations We have destroyed before them! And they cried out when it was too late to escape.

[4] They are surprised that a warner should come to them from among themselves. They say, ‘This is a magician, a great liar. [5] Does he make all the deities out to be one God? This is indeed a strange thing.’ [6] Their leaders departed, saying, ‘Walk away! Hold fast to your deities. This is clearly a conspiracy. [7] We have not heard of any such thing in the old religion. This is nothing but a fabrication. [8] Was the message sent only to him out of all of us?’ In fact, they doubt My warning; in fact, they have not yet tasted My punishment.

[9] Do they possess the treasures of the mercy of your Lord, the Mighty, the Great Bestower? [10] Have they control over heavens and earth and whatever [lies] between them? Then let them climb up to heaven by ropes: [11] this host too, among other hosts, is bound to suffer defeat. [12] Before them the people of Noah denied the truth, as did the ‘Ad and Pharaoh of the Stakes, [13] and the tribe of Thamud, and the people of Lot, and the dwellers of the Wood—these were the confederates. [14] There was not one of them but treated their messengers as liars, so My

punishment rightly overtook
them: 15 they have only to wait
for one single blast [of
punishment]: it shall not be
delayed by one whit. 16 They
say: 'Our Lord! Hasten on for us
our fate before the Day of
Reckoning.'

17 Bear with their words
patiently. Remember Our servant
David, a man of strength who
always turned to Us: 18 We made
the mountains join him in
glorifying Us at sunset and
sunrise; 19 and the birds, too, in
flocks, all turned to Him. 20 We
made his kingdom strong, and
bestowed upon him wisdom and
sagacity in judgement.

21 Have you heard the story of
the disputants who entered his
chamber by climbing over the
wall? 22 When they reached
David, he took fright, but they
said, 'Do not be afraid. We are
two disputants, one of whom has
wronged the other: judge
between us fairly—do not be
unjust—and guide us to the right
path.

23 'This brother of mine has
ninety-nine ewes and I have only
one. He said, "Let me have charge
of it," and got the better of me
with his words.' 24 David said,
'He has certainly wronged you
by demanding that your ewe be
added to his ewes! Thus many
partners wrong one another—
[all] save those who believe [in
God] and do righteous deeds:
but how few are they!' And
[suddenly] David understood that
We were only putting him to the
test, and so he asked his Lord to
forgive him his sins; he fell to
his knees, and turned to Him in
repentance. 25 We forgave him
his sins. His reward will be
nearness to Us, a good place to
return to.

26 We said, 'David, We have
given you mastery over the land.
Judge fairly between people. Do
not follow your desires, lest they
divert you from God's path: those
who wander from His path will
have a severe punishment,
because they ignore the Day of
Reckoning.'

27 We did not create heaven
and earth and all that is between

them in vain. That is the opinion
of those who deny the truth. Woe
betide those who deny the truth,
when they are cast into the Fire—
28 shall We treat those who
believe and do good works the
same as those who spread
corruption in the land; shall We
treat the pious the same as the
wicked? 29 This is a blessed Book
which We sent down to you
[Muhammad], for people to
ponder over its messages, and
for those with understanding to
take heed.

30 We gave David Solomon.
He was an excellent servant who
always turned to God. 31 When
well-bred horses, which were
fleet of foot were paraded before
him near the close of day, 32 he
said, 'I have put the love of good
things above the remembrance
of my Lord'—until [the sun]
disappeared behind its veil and
the horses disappeared from
sight—33 'Bring them back to
me!'—[he said] and began to
stroke their legs and their necks.

34 We tried Solomon by placing
upon his throne a [lifeless] body;
and thereupon he turned towards
Us]. 35 He prayed, 'Lord forgive
me! Grant me such power as no
one after me will have—You are
the Most Generous Provider.'
36 Then We subjected the wind
to his power, so that it blew
gently, at his behest, wherever
he willed—37 and also the jinn—
every kind of builder and diver
38 and others chained in fetters.
39 We said: 'This is Our gift, so
give or withhold as you wish
without reckoning.' 40 His reward
will be nearness to Us, a good
place to return to.

41 Bring to mind Our servant
Job who cried to his Lord, 'Satan
has afflicted me with distress
and suffering.' 42 We said, 'Stamp
your foot! Here is cool water for
you to wash in and drink,' 43 We
restored his family to him,
doubling their number as an act
of grace from Us, and as a
reminder to all who are endowed
with insight. 44 We said to Him,
'Take a handful of twigs in your
hand and strike with that but do
not break your oath.' We found
him steadfast. What an excellent

servant! He turned constantly to
his Lord.[a]
45 Remember Our servants
Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—
possessors of strength and vision.
46 We chose them for a special
[purpose]—proclaiming the
message of the Hereafter: 47 and,
in Our sight they were indeed
among the select, the truly good!
48 Remember [Our servants]
Ishmael, Elisha, and Dhu'l-Kifl.
Each of them was among the
just.
49 This is a Reminder. The
righteous shall have a good place
to return to: 50 the Gardens of
eternity with gates thrown wide
open to them. 51 They will be
comfortably seated; reclining,
they will call for abundant fruit
and drink; 52 with them, they
will have pure, modest women
of an equal age. 53 This is what
you were promised on the Day of
Reckoning: 54 Our provision for
you will never be exhausted.
55 But the arrogant will have
the worst return: 56 they will burn,
in Hell, an evil resting place—
57 all this will be theirs; let them
taste it—a scalding, dark, foul
fluid, 58 and other such torments.
59 [And they will say to one
another: 'Do you see] this crowd
of people rushing headlong to
join you?' 'No welcome to them!
Indeed, they are headed for the
fire!' 60 They will say to them,
'You are not welcome! It was
you who brought this on us, an
evil place to stay,' 61 adding,
'Our Lord, give double
punishment to those who brought
this upon us.' 62 And they will
say, 'How is it that we do not see
[here any of the] men whom we
used to count among the wicked,
63 [and] whom we made the target
of our derision? Or are they here,

---

[a] Job (Ayyub) was an Israeli prophet probably some time in the ninth century B.C. According to the Bible (Job, 1:20-22), he was initially very rich. He was blessed with farms, cattle, houses, children, etc., to such an extent that it was said that nobody was his peer in the entire East. In spite of this, however, Job was a very grateful and faithful person. His life set an example of how a person may remain humble and modest, in spite of being blessed with great wealth and honour.

and our eyes have missed them?'
64 All this is certainly true—the
inhabitants of the Fire will blame
one another in this way.

65 Say, [Prophet], 'I am only a
warner. There is no god but God,
the One, the All-Powerful,
66 Lord of the heavens and earth
and everything between them,
the Almighty, the Most
Forgiving.' 67 Say, 'This is
momentous news, 68 yet you
ignore it. 69 I had no knowledge
of the Exalted Assembly when
they argued [against the creation
of man]: 70 it has only been
revealed to me that I am a plain
warner.'

71 Your Lord said to the angels,
'I am about to create a human
being out of clay; 72 and when I
have formed him fully and
breathed My spirit into him,
prostrate yourselves before him.'
73 Thereupon the angels
prostrated themselves, all of them
together, 74 but not Satan, who
was too proud. He became
one of those who deny the
truth. 75 God said, 'Satan, what
prevented you from prostrating
yourself to what I created
with My own Hands? Were
you overcome by arrogance, or
are you of those who think [only]
of themselves as exalted?'
76 Satan replied, 'I am better
than him. You created me from
fire, but You created him from
clay.' 77 'Begone! You are
accursed: 78 My curse will remain
upon you till the Day of
Judgement!'

79 But Satan said, 'My Lord,
grant me respite until the Day of
Resurrection,' 80 so He said, 'You
are granted respite 81 till the
Appointed Day.' 82 He said, 'By
Your Honour, I will lead all of
them astray, 83 except for those
among them who are Your chosen
servants.' 84 God said, 'This is
the truth—I speak only the
truth—85 I will fill up Hell with
you and every one of them who
follows you.'

86 Say, 'I do not ask you for
any recompense for this, nor am
I a man of false pretentions:
87 this is simply an admonition
to mankind, 88 you shall before
long know its truth.'

39. THE CROWDS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 This Book is sent down by God
the Mighty, the Wise. 2 It is We
who sent down the Book to you
[Prophet] with the Truth, so
worship God with your total
devotion: 3 it is to God alone that
sincere obedience is due. And
those who take other guardians
besides Him say, 'We serve them
only that they may bring us nearer
to God.' Surely, God will judge
between them concerning that
wherein they differ. God does
not guide anyone who is bent on
lying and is a disbelieving liar.
4 If God had willed to take a
son He could have chosen anyone
He pleased out of His creation:
but Glory be to Him! [He is
above such things.] He is God,
the One, the Omnipotent. 5 He
created the heavens and the earth
for a true purpose; He causes the
night to succeed the day and the
day to succeed the night; He has
subjected the sun and moon, so
that they run their courses for an
appointed time; He is truly the
Mighty, the Forgiving.
6 He created you from a single
soul, then produced its spouse
from it, and He has provided for
you eight heads of cattle in pairs.
He creates you stage by stage in
your mothers' wombs in a
threefold darkness. Such is God,
your Lord. Sovereignty is His.
There is no god but Him. So
what has made you turn away?
7 If you are ungrateful,
remember that God has no need
of you. He is not pleased by
ingratitude in His servants; if
you are grateful, He is pleased
[to see] it in you. No soul shall
bear another's burden. You will
return to your Lord in the end
and He will declare to you what
you have done: He knows well
what is in the hearts of men.
8 When man suffers some
affliction, he prays to his Lord
and turns to Him in penitence,
but once he has been granted a

favour from God, he forgets the One he had been praying to and sets up rivals to God, to make others stray from His path. Say, 'Enjoy your unbelief for a little while: you will be one of the inmates of the Fire.' [9] Is he who prays devoutly to God in the hours of the night, prostrating himself and standing in prayer, who is ever mindful of the life to come and hopes for the mercy of his Lord [like one who does not]? Say, 'Are those who know equal to those who do not know?' Truly, only those endowed with understanding will take heed.

[10] Say, '[God says] O My servants who have believed, fear your Lord. For those who do good in this world will have a good reward—and God's earth is spacious. Truly, those who persevere patiently will be requited without measure.'

[11] Say, 'I have been commanded to serve God, dedicating my worship entirely to Him. [12] I have been commanded to be the first to submit.' [13] Say, 'I fear, if I disobey my Lord, the punishment of a Terrible Day.' [14] Say, 'It is God I serve, sincere in my faith in Him alone—[15] as for yourselves, worship anything you please besides Him!' Say, 'The real losers will be those who lose themselves and all their kith and kin on the Day of Resurrection. That is the [most] obvious loss. [16] They will have sheets of fire above them and sheets of fire beneath them.' That is how God puts fear into the hearts of His servants. Fear me, then, My servants.

[17] There is good news for those who shun the worship of false deities and turn to God, so give good news to My servants, [18] who listen to what is said and follow what is best in it. These are the ones God has guided; these are the people endowed with understanding.

[19] But what of him against whom the sentence of punishment is justified? Can you rescue one who is already in the Fire? [20] But for those who truly feared their Lord, there will be

tall mansions, built up storey
upon storey, beneath which there
will be rivers flowing. This is
God's promise: God never fails
in His promise.
21 Have you not seen that God
sends down water from the sky,
guides it to form springs in the
earth, and then, with it, brings
forth vegetation of various
colours, which later withers,
turns yellow before your eyes,
and then He makes it crumble
away? There is truly a reminder
in this for those who possess
understanding.[a] 22 Anyone
whose heart God has opened up
to Islam possesses a light from
his Lord. But woe betide those
whose hearts have been hardened
against the rememberance of
God! Such people are in obvious
error.
23 God has sent down the best
Message: a Scripture that is
consimilar and oft-repeated: that
causes the skins of those in awe
of their Lord to creep. Then their
skins and their hearts soften at
the mention of God: such is
God's guidance. He bestows it
upon whoever He will; but no
one can guide those whom God
leaves to stray.
24 What about the one who
will have only his bare face to
protect him from his terrible
punishment on the Day of
Resurrection? The evil-doers will
be told, 'Taste what you have
earned.' 25 Those before them
also denied the truth, and the
punishment fell on them from
where they did not expect. 26 God
gave them a taste of humiliation
in the life of this world, but the
punishment of the Hereafter is
greater, if they only knew it.
27 We have set forth to men all

[a] The wonderful system of rains on the earth, the resulting growth of greenery and the preparations for harvesting, all these events have countless meaningful lessons in them. But, these lessons are available only to those who by nature go deep into things. Those who keep their natural capabilities alive and by utilising them give deep consideration to the things of the world, will have their minds filled with the deep realisation (*ma'rifah*) of God.

kinds of parables in this Quran so that they may take heed: [28] a Quran in Arabic, free from any ambiguity—so that people may be mindful. [29] God sets forth a parable: there are two men—one belonging to many masters, all disagreeing with one another, and the other belonging entirely to one master: are those two equal in comparison? Praise be to God! But most of them have no knowledge. [30] You will die and they too will die, [31] and, then on the Day of Resurrection you shall place your dispute before your Sustainer.

[32] Who, then, is more unjust than he who lies about God and rejects the truth when it comes to him? Is not Hell an abode for those who deny the truth? [33] He who brings the truth, and he who testifies to it as such—those are surely the people who are God-fearing: [34] they will have everything they wish for from their Lord. Such is the reward of those who do good: [35] God will efface their worst deeds from their record and give them their reward in accordance with the best of their actions.

[36] Is God not enough for His servant? Yet they try to frighten you with other [deities] besides Him! For such as God lets go astray, there will be no guide; [37] but he whom God guides cannot be led astray by anyone. Is God not mighty and capable of retribution?

[38] If you ask them who created the heavens and the earth, they will surely reply, 'God.' Say, 'Consider those you invoke besides Him: if God wished to harm me, could they undo that harm? Or if God wished to show me mercy, could they withhold that mercy?' Say, 'God is sufficient for me. In Him let the faithful put their trust.' [39] Say, 'My people, do whatever is in your power—and so will I. Soon you shall come to know [40] who will suffer a humiliating torment and on whom will descend an everlasting punishment.' [41] [O Prophet!] We have sent down to you the Book for mankind with the truth. Then whoever adopts

the right way, will do so for his
own soul, and whoever goes
astray, injures his own soul. You
are not their custodian.
42 It is God who takes away
men's souls upon their death and
the souls of the living during
their sleep. Then He withholds
those for whom He has ordained
death and restores the souls of
others for an appointed term.
There are certainly signs in this
for those who reflect.
43 Have they taken others for
intercessors besides God? Say,
'Even though they have no power
nor understanding?' 44 Say,
'Intercession is entirely in the
hands of God. He controls the
heavens and the earth; you will
all return to Him.' 45 When God
alone is named, the hearts of
those who do not believe in the
Hereafter shrink with aversion,
but when others are named
instead of Him, they are filled
with joy. 46 Say, 'O God!
Originator of the heavens and
earth! Knower of all that is
hidden and all that is manifest,
You will judge between Your
servants regarding their
differences.' 47 If the wrongdoers
possessed all that is on earth,
and twice as much, they would
offer it to redeem themselves
from the awful suffering on the
Day of Resurrection. For God
will show them what they had
never anticipated, 48 the evil of
their deeds will become apparent
to them, and they will be
overwhelmed by that which they
used to mock.
49 When affliction befalls man,
he appeals to Us; but when We
bestow a favour upon him he
says, 'All this has been given to
me because of my own
knowledge.' By no means! It is a
trial: yet most of them do not
realize it. 50 Those who preceded
them said the same thing but
they gained nothing from what
they did; 51 the very evil of their
deeds recoiled upon them;
today's wrongdoers shall also
have the evil of their deeds recoil
upon them: they will never be
able to frustrate [Our plan]. 52 Do
they not know that God grants
abundant sustenance to anyone

He wishes and gives sparingly to anyone He pleases? Surely there are signs in this for those who believe. 53 Say, [God says] ‘O My servants, who have committed excesses against their own souls, do not despair of God’s mercy, for God surely forgives all sins. He is truly the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful. 54 Turn to your Lord and submit to Him before His scourge overtakes you, for then you shall not be helped.

55 Follow the best aspect of what is sent down to you from your Lord, before the scourge comes upon you unawares, 56 lest anyone should say, “Alas for me, for having neglected what is due to God, and having been one of those who scoffed!” 57 Or, “If only God had guided me, I would surely have joined the God-fearing.” 58 Or, he may say as he sees the punishment, “Would that I had a second chance, so that I could be among the doers of good.” 59 No indeed! My revelations did come to you, but you rejected them: you showed arrogance, and were among those who deny the truth.’ 60 On the Day of Resurrection you will see those who uttered falsehoods about God with their faces blackened. Is there not enough room in Hell for the arrogant? 61 But God will deliver them who feared Him to their place of salvation. No evil shall touch them, nor shall they grieve.

62 God is the Creator of all things, He has charge of everything; 63 the keys of the heavens and the earth belong to Him. Those who deny God’s revelations will surely be the losers. 64 Say, ‘Ignorant men! Would you bid me worship someone other than God?’ 65 It has already been revealed to you and to those who have gone before you that if you ascribe any partner to God, all your works will come to nothing, and you will surely be among the losers. 66 Therefore, you should worship God alone and be among the thankful.

67 No just estimate have they made of God, such as is due to

Him. But on the Day of
Resurrection, the whole earth
will lie within His grasp, while
heaven will be folded up in His
right hand—Glory be to Him!
Exalted is He above all that they
associate with Him—68 the
Trumpet shall be blown and
whoever is in heaven and whoever
is on earth will fall down in a
swoon, except those who shall
be spared by God. Then the
trumpet will be blown again and
they shall rise and gaze around
them. 69 The earth will shine
with the light of its Lord, and the
Book will be laid open; the
prophets and witnesses will be
brought in; and judgement will
be passed on them with fairness.
And none shall be wronged.
70 Every soul will be repaid in
full for what it has done. He is
fully aware of all that they did.

71 Those who rejected the truth
will be led to Hell in throngs.
When they reach it, its gates will
be opened and its keepers will
say to them, 'Have messengers
not come to you from among
yourselves, who conveyed to you
the revelations of your Lord and
warned you about meeting [Him]
on this Day?' They will answer,
'Yes, they did come.' But the
decree of punishment has proved
true against the deniers of the
truth. 72 They will be told, 'Enter
the gates of Hell, to stay therein
forever.' What an evil dwelling
place for the haughty.

73 But those who fear their
Lord will be led in groups
towards Paradise. When they
reach it, its gate will be opened,
and its keepers will say to them,
'Peace be upon you. You have
done well, enter Paradise and
dwell in it forever,' 74 and they
will say, 'Praise be to God who
has fulfilled His promise to us
and made us the inheritors of
this land, letting us settle in the
Garden wherever we want.' How
excellent is the reward of those
who labour! 75 You shall see the
angels circling about the throne,
glorifying their Lord with praise.
And judgement will have been
passed in justice on all and it
will be said, 'Praise be to God,
Lord of the Universe!'

40. THE FORGIVER

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Ha Mim*

2 This Book is revealed by God,
the Almighty, the All Knowing.
3 The Forgiver of sin and the
Accepter of repentance, who is
severe in punishment and Infinite
in His Bounty. There is no God
but Him. All shall return to Him.
4 Only those who deny the
truth dispute God's signs. Do
not let their activity in the land
deceive you. 5 The people of
Noah and later factions also
rejected the truth and every
community plotted against the
messenger sent to them, aiming
to lay hands on him, and they
contended [against his message]
with fallacious arguments, so
that they might defeat the truth,
therefore I seized them. How
terrible was My punishment.
6 Thus has the word of your Lord
come true against the deniers;
they shall be the inmates of the
Fire.
7 Those who bear the Throne,
and those who are around it,
glorify their Lord with His praise,
and believe in Him. They ask
forgiveness for those who
believe, saying, 'Our Lord, You
embrace all things in mercy and
knowledge. Forgive those who
turn to You and follow Your
path. Save them from the
punishment of Hell 8 and admit
them, Lord, to the Eternal Garden
You have promised to them,
together with their righteous
ancestors, spouses, and
offspring: You alone are the
Almighty; the All Wise. 9 Protect
them from all evil deeds: those
You protect from [the
punishment for] evil deeds will
receive Your mercy—that is the
supreme success.'
10 Those who deny the truth
will be told, 'God's abhorrence
of you is greater than your hatred
of yourselves. You were called
to the faith but you denied it.'

11 They will say, 'Our Lord!
Twice You have made us die,
and twice You have given us
life! Now we have confessed our
sins: is there any way out [of
this]?' 12 [They will be told],
'This is because when God alone
was invoked you denied the truth,
yet when others were associated
with Him you believed in them.'
Judgement rests with God, the
Most High, the Most Great.

13 It is He who shows you His
signs, and sends down provision
for you from heaven; but none
pays heed except the repentant.
14 Therefore call upon God,
making faith pure for Him, averse
as the deniers of the truth may be
to it: 15 Exalted and throned on
high, He lets the Spirit descend
at His behest upon whichever of
His servants He will, so that he
may warn of the Day of Meeting,
16 the Day when they shall rise
up [from their graves] and
nothing about them will be
hidden from God. 'To whom
shall the kingdom belong that
Day?' It shall belong to God, the
One, the All Powerful. 17 That
Day every soul shall be requited
for what it has earned. On that
Day none shall be wronged. And
God is swift in reckoning.

18 [O Prophet] forewarn them
of the approaching Day, when
hearts will leap up to the throats
and choke them; when the
wrongdoers will have no friend,
nor any intercessor who will be
listened to, 19 [for] He is aware
of the [most] stealthy glance,
and of all that the hearts conceal.
20 God will judge with [justice
and] truth: but those whom they
invoke besides Him, have no
power to judge at all. Surely,
God is all hearing, all seeing.

21 Have they not travelled
through the land and seen what
was the end of those who have
gone before them? They were
stronger than them and made a
more impressive mark upon the
land, yet God destroyed them for
their sins—they had no one to
defend them against Him—
22 that was because their
messengers came to them with
clear signs but they rejected
them. So God seized them:

He is powerful, severe in
punishment.
23 We sent Moses with Our
signs and clear authority 24 to
Pharaoh, Haman and Korah. But
they said, ‘A magician, a liar.’
25 When he came to them with
the truth from Us, they said,
‘Slay the sons of those who
believe with him and spare only
their daughters’—the schemes
of those who denied the truth
were futile.
26 Pharaoh said, ‘Let me kill
Moses—let him call upon his
Lord—I fear that he may cause
you to change your religion, or
that he may cause disorder in the
land.’ 27 Moses replied, ‘I seek
refuge with my Lord and your
Lord from every arrogant person
who does not believe in the Day
of Reckoning.’
28 A believer, a man from
among the people of Pharaoh,
who had concealed his faith,
said, ‘Would you slay a man
merely because he says, “My
Lord is God.” He has brought
you clear signs from your Lord,
and if he is lying, the sin of his
will be on his own head; but if he
is truthful, a part of that of which
he warns you will surely befall
you. Certainly, God does not
guide one who is a transgressor
and a liar. 29 My people! Yours is
the kingdom today, you have
dominion in the land; but who
will help us against the scourge
of God if it befalls us?’ But
Pharaoh said, ‘I point out to you
only that which I consider right;
and I guide you to the right
path.’
30 The believer said, ‘My
people! I fear for you a fate like
that of the people of old: 31 like
the fate of the people of Noah,
‘Ad, Thamud, and those who
came after them—God never
wills injustice on His creatures.
32 My people, I fear for you the
Day you will cry out to one
another, 33 the Day when you
will [wish to] turn your backs
and flee, having none to defend
you against God: for he whom
God lets go astray can never find
any guide.
34 Joseph came to you before
with clear signs, but you never

ceased to doubt the message he brought you. When he died, you said, "God will not send another messenger."' In this way God leaves the transgressors and doubters to go astray—35 those who dispute God's revelations without any authority are doing something that is greatly abhorrent to God and to the believers. That is how God seals up the heart of every arrogant oppressor.

36 Pharaoh said, 'O Haman, build for me a lofty building so that I may gain access 37 to the heavens, so that I may look upon the God of Moses: I am convinced that he is a liar!' That is how Pharaoh's evil actions were made to look fair in the eyes of Pharoah, and he was turned away from the path [of truth]. Pharaoh's scheming led to nothing but ruin.

38 The believer said, 'My people, follow me! I will guide you to the right path. 39 O my people, the life of this world is only a temporary provision; and the Hereafter is the permanent abode. 40 Whoever does evil will be requited with evil; but whoever does good, whether male or female, and is a believer, will enter the Garden; where they will be provided for without measure. 41 My people! How is it that I call you to salvation, while you call me to the Fire? 42 You call upon me to deny God and to serve other deities about which I have no knowledge, while I call you to the Almighty, the Forgiver. 43 Surely that to which you call me has no say in this world or in the life to come, that our return is to God alone, and that the transgressors shall be the inmates of the Fire. 44 Soon you will remember what I say to you! I shall entrust my affair to God, for God is observant of all [His] servants.'

45 Thus, God delivered him from the evils which they plotted, and the companions of Pharaoh themselves were encompassed by a dreadful scourge; 46 they will be brought before the Fire morning and evening. On the Day the Hour comes, [a voice

will cry], 'Mete out to Pharaoh's
people the harshest punishment!'
47 When they dispute with one
another in the Fire, the weak will
say to those who deemed
themselves mighty, 'We were
your followers; will you then
relieve us of some of the Fire?'
48 But those who had been
arrogant will say, 'We are all in
this together. God has judged
between His servants.' 49 Those
in the Fire will say to its keepers,
'Implore your Lord to relieve
our torment for one day,' 50 but
they will say, 'Did not your
messengers come to you with
clear signs?' They will say, 'Yes.'
The keepers will say, 'Then pray
[for help] yourselves.' But the
prayer of those who deny the
truth is of no avail.

51 Most surely We help our
messengers, and those who
believe, in the life of this world
and on the Day when all the
witnesses will stand up. 52 The
Day when their excuses will be
of no avail to the wrongdoers,
the curse shall be their lot and
they will have the most evil
abode. 53 We gave Moses Our
guidance, and made the Children
of Israel the inheritors of the
Book—54 a guide and an
admonition to men of
understanding. 55 So be patient,
for what God has promised is
sure to come. Ask forgiveness
for your sins; praise your Lord
morning and evening.

56 As for those who, with no
authority to do so, dispute God's
messages, there is nothing in
their hearts but a feeling of
greatness which they will never
attain. Seek refuge in God, for
He is the All Hearing, the All
Seeing. 57 Certainly, the creation
of the heavens and the earth is
greater than the creation of
mankind; but most people do not
know this. 58 The blind and the
sighted are not equal, just as
those who believe and do good
works and those who do evil are
not equal: how seldom you
reflect! 59 The Final Hour is sure
to come, without doubt, but most
people do not believe.

60 Your Lord has said, 'Call on
Me, and I will answer your

prayers.' But those who are too
arrogant to worship Me will
certainly enter Hell, in disgrace.
61 It is God who has given you
the night in which to rest and the
day in which to see. God is truly
bountiful to people, but most
people do not give thanks.
62 Such is God, your Lord, the
Creator of all things. There is no
god but He. How then are you
being turned away [from Him]?
63 Thus, indeed, those who deny
the signs of God turn away
from Him.

64 It is God who has given you
the earth for a resting place and
the heavens for a canopy. He
shaped you, formed you well,
and provided you with good
things. Such is God, your Lord,
so glory be to Him, the Lord of
the Universe. 65 He is the Living
One. There is no deity save Him.
So pray to Him, making religion
pure for Him [only]. Praise be to
God, the Lord of the Universe!

66 Say, 'I have been forbidden
to invoke those whom you invoke
besides God—seeing that clear
signs have come to me from
my Lord; and I have been
commanded to submit to the
Lord of the Universe.' 67 It is He
who created you from dust, then
from a drop of fluid, then from
a tiny, clinging form, then He
brought you forth as infants,
then He allowed you to reach
maturity, then He let you grow
old—though some of you die
sooner—and reach your
appointed term so that you may
reflect. 68 It is He who gives life
and death, and when He ordains
a thing, He says only, 'Be!' and
it is.

69 Do you not see how those
who dispute God's signs, are
turned away from the right
path—70 those who reject the
Book and that with which We
sent Our messengers shall soon
know—71 when, with iron collars
and chains around their necks,
they are dragged 72 into the
boiling water and then are thrown
into the Fire, 73 and then they
will be asked, 'Where are those
whom you associated [with
God]?' 74 They will say, 'They
have been lost to us; nay, we did

not invoke anything before [that
had real existence].' Thus God
leaves the deniers of the truth to
stray; 75 that is because you
exulted in the land without
justification and because you
behaved insolently. 76 Enter the
gates of Hell to stay therein
forever. The abode of the arrogant
is evil.

77 So be patient [Prophet], for
God's promise is true: whether
We show you part of what We
have promised them in this life,
or cause you to die first, it is to
Us that they will be recalled.

78 Before your time We sent
other messengers: of them there
are some whose story We have
related to you, and some whose
story We have not related to you.
It was not [possible] for any
messenger to bring a sign except
by the leave of God: but when
the command of God was issued,
the matter was decided in truth
and justice. There and then, those
who stood on falsehoods
perished.

79 It is God who provides
livestock for you, some for riding
and some for your food: 80 you
have other benefits in them too.
You can reach any destination
you wish on them: they carry you
by land, as ships carry you on the
sea. 81 He shows you His signs;
which then of the signs of God
will you deny?

82 Have they not travelled in
the land to see the fate of those
who went before them? They
were more numerous and
mightier and left greater traces
of their power on the earth; yet
all that they accomplished was
of no avail to them. 83 When
messengers came to them with
clear signs, they revelled in
whatever knowledge they had,
and so they were engulfed by the
very punishment they mocked:
84 but when they saw Our
punishment, they said, 'We
believe in God—the One God—
and we reject the partners we
used to associate with Him,'
85 but believing after seeing Our
punishment did not benefit them
at all: this is the law of God to
deal with His creatures, and thus
the disbelievers were the losers.

41. REVELATIONS WELL EXPOUNDED

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Ha Mim*

2 A revelation from [God], the
Most Gracious, the Most
Merciful—3 a Book whose
revelations are well expounded,
an Arabic Quran for people
who possess knowledge,
4 proclaiming good news and a
warning. Yet most of them turn
away and so do not listen. 5 And
they say, 'Our hearts are encased
against that to which you call us,
and there is a heaviness in our
ears, and there is a barrier
between us, so do as you will
and so shall we.'
6 Say, 'I am only a human
being like yourselves. It has been
revealed to me that your God is
One God. So take the straight
path to Him and ask His
forgiveness.' Woe to those who
associate others with Him, 7 who
do not pay the *zakat*, and who
deny the Hereafter. 8 'The ones
who believe and perform good
deeds shall have a reward which
will never be withheld from
them.'[a]
9 Say, 'What! Do you indeed
deny Him who created the earth
in two Days [periods] and do
you set up equals with Him? He
is the Lord of the Universe.'
10 He placed firm mountains on
the earth, and blessed it. He
measured out its means of
sustenance all in four Days; this
is for those who ask for it. 11 Then
He turned to heaven when it was
vapour and said to it and to the
earth, 'Come willingly or
unwillingly.' They both said, 'We
come willingly,' 12 and in two
Days He formed seven heavens,
and revealed to each heaven its
functions; and We adorned the

[a] 'So take the straight path to Him' means 'keep your worship purely for God', i.e. your whole attention should be directed towards God; the sole object of your prayers and worship should be the one and only God.

lower heaven with brilliant lamps [stars] and guarded it. That is the decree of the Almighty, the All Knowing.

13 If they turn away, then say, ‘I warn you of a lightning-bolt like the one which struck the ‘Ad and the Thamud: 14 when the messengers came to them from before them and behind them, saying, “Worship none but God!” They said, “If our Lord had willed, He would have sent down angels [to us]. Therefore, we shall never believe in your message.”’

15 As for the tribe of ‘Ad, they behaved arrogantly in the land without any justification and said, ‘Who is mightier than we in power?’ Did they not see that God, who created them, was mightier than they in power? Still they continued to deny Our signs, 16 so We let loose upon them a raging wind over several inauspicious days, so that We might make them taste the torment of humiliation in the life of this world, and surely the torment of the Hereafter will be more humiliating. They shall have none to help them. 17 As for the Thamud We offered them Our guidance, but they preferred blindness to guidance. So the lightning-bolt of the punishment of humiliation seized them on account of their misdeeds. 18 We saved those who had attained to faith and were God-fearing.

19 On the Day that the enemies of God shall be gathered together and driven to the Fire, they shall be formed into groups, and 20 when they come close to it, their ears, eyes and skins will testify against them for their misdeeds. 21 And they will ask their skins, ‘Why did you bear witness against us?’ and their skins will reply, ‘God, who gives speech to all things, has given speech to us [as well]—it was He who created you in the first instance and to Him you are [now] brought back—22 you could not hide yourselves from your ears and your eyes and your skins to prevent them from testifying against you, and you thought that God would never know much of what you did,

23 but these thoughts which you
entertained concerning your
Lord, have brought you to
destruction, and [now] you are
among the utterly lost!' 24 Even
if they are patient, the Fire will
still be their homes. And if they
pray to be allowed to make
amends, they will not be allowed
to do so.

25 We assigned to them
companions who made their
doings appear fair to them. But
the same decree [of punishment]
proved true against them, which
had proved true against nations
of jinn and mankind who passed
away before them. Surely they
were the losers.

26 Those who deny the truth
say, 'Do not listen to this Quran.
Drown it out with noise, so that
you may gain the upper hand.'
27 Therefore, We will most
certainly make those who are
bent on denying the truth taste a
severe punishment and We will
most certainly requite them
according to the worst of their
deeds—28 that is the reward of
the enemies of God—the Fire
will be their everlasting home, a
reward for their rejection of Our
revelations.

29 Those who deny the truth
will say, 'Our Lord, show us
those jinn and men who misled
us and we shall trample them
underfoot, so that they may be
among the lowest of the low.'
30 As for those who affirm, 'Our
Lord is God,' and then remain
steadfast, the angels will descend
on them, saying, 'Have no fear
and do not grieve. Rejoice in the
[good news of the] Garden that
you have been promised. 31 'We
are your companions in this life
and in the Hereafter. Therein you
shall have all that your souls
desire, and therein you shall have
all that you ask for 32 as a rich
provision from One who is ever
forgiving and most merciful.'

33 Who speaks better than one
who calls to God and does good
works and says, 'I am surely of
those who submit'? 34 Good and
evil deeds are not equal. Repel
evil with what is better; then you
will see that one who was once
your enemy has become your

dearest friend, 35 but no one will
be granted such goodness except
those who exercise patience and
self-restraint—no one is granted
it save those who are truly
fortunate. 36 If a prompting from
Satan should stir you, seek refuge
with God: He is the All Hearing
and the All Knowing.

37 Among His signs are the
night and the day, and the sun
and the moon. Do not prostrate
yourselves before the sun and the
moon, but prostrate yourselves
before God who created them all,
if it is truly Him that you worship.
38 If they grow arrogant,
[remember that] those who are
with your Lord glorify Him night
and day and never grow tired.

39 Among His signs is this:
you see the earth dry and barren,
but when We send down on it
water, it stirs and swells: most
surely He who gives it life is the
giver of life to the dead; surely
He has power over all things.
40 Those who distort the meaning
of Our message are not concealed
from Us. Who is better—
someone who will be thrown
into the Fire or someone who
will arrive in safety on the Day
of Resurrection? Do as you will,
He sees whatever you do.

41 Those who reject the
Reminder [the Quran] when it
comes to them [are the losers]—
truly it is a mighty Book:
42 falsehood shall not reach from
before or from behind. It is a
revelation from the Wise, the
One worthy of all praise.
43 Nothing is said to you but
what was said indeed to the
messengers before you; surely
your Lord is the Lord of
forgiveness but also the Lord of
painful retribution.

44 Had We sent this as a Quran
[in a language] other than Arabic,
they would have said, 'Why are
its verses not clearly explained?
What! An Arab Prophet, and a
scripture in a foreign tongue?'
Say, 'It is a guide and a healing
to those who believe; but for
those who do not believe, there
is a deafness in their ears, and a
covering over their eyes: they
are [as it were] being called from
a very distant place.'

45 We gave Moses the Book, but differences were created concerning it: and had it not been for a word that had already gone forth from your Lord, the matter would have been decided between them; and certainly they are in grave doubt about it. 46 Whoever does what is just and right, does so for his own good; and whoever does evil, does so to his own detriment: and God is never in the least unjust to His creatures.

47 He alone has knowledge of the Hour [of Judgment]. And no fruit emerges from its husk, nor does any female become pregnant or give birth, without His knowledge. On the Day He will call out to them, 'Where are My associates?' They will reply, 'We declare to You that none of us can bear witness to them:' 48 [the deities] they invoked before will have vanished; they will know that there is no escape.

49 Man never tires of asking for the good things of life; but if evil fortune befalls him, he abandons all hope, giving himself up to despair. 50 When We give him a taste of some of Our mercy, after some adversity has touched him, he is sure to say, 'This is my due. I do not think that the Hour is going to come. And even if I return to my Lord, He will surely reward me well.' But truly We shall tell those who deny the truth [all] that they did, and shall make them suffer a hard punishment.

51 When We grant a blessing to a man, he turns away and draws aside, but when any evil touches him, he is full of endless prayers! 52 Say to them, 'Have you considered, if this Quran is really from God and you still reject it, then who could be more astray than someone who has drifted far away from the truth?'

53 We shall show them Our signs in the universe and within themselves, until it becomes clear to them that this is the Truth. Is it not enough that your Lord is the witness of all things? 54 Yet they still doubt that they will ever meet their Lord. Surely, He encompasses all things.

42. MUTUAL CONSULTATION

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Ha Mim* 2 *'Ayn Sin Qaf*

3 Thus God, the Powerful, the Wise, sends revelation to you as He did to those before you. 4 All that is in the heavens and earth belongs to Him: He is the Exalted, the Almighty. 5 The heavens are almost split asunder from above as the angels sing their Lord's praise and seek forgiveness for those on earth. God is indeed the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful. 6 And [as for] those who take protectors besides Him, God is watching them and you are not a guardian over them.

7 Thus We revealed to you, this Arabic Quran so that you may warn the mother of cities [Makkah] and those around it, and warn them of the Day of Gathering which is sure to come: when some group will be in the Garden, and some will be in the Fire.

8 Had God so willed, He could have made all of them one community, but He admits into His mercy whom He wills; and the wrongdoers have neither protector, nor helper. 9 Have they taken for themselves protectors other than Him? But it is God who is the real Protector. He resurrects the dead, and He has power over all things. 10 In whatever you may differ, [O believers] the verdict thereon rests with God. [Say, therefore], 'Such is God, my Lord: in Him I have placed my trust, and to Him I always turn.'

11 Creator of the Heavens and the Earth, He has made spouses for you from among yourselves, as well as pairs of livestock by means of which He multiplies His creatures. Nothing can be compared with Him! He is the All Hearing, the All Seeing. 12 He is in complete control of heaven and earth; He gives abundantly

to whoever He wills and gives sparingly to whoever He wills. He has full knowledge of all things.

13 God has ordained for you the same religion which He enjoined on Noah, and which We have revealed to you, and which We enjoined upon Abraham and Moses and Jesus, so that you should remain steadfast in religion and not become divided in it. What you call upon the polytheists to do is hard for them; God chooses for Himself whoever He pleases and guides towards Himself those who turn to Him.

14 They became divided only after knowledge had reached them, out of mutual jealousy. Had it not been for a decree already passed by your Lord, [to reprieve them] till a specified period, the matter would surely have been decided between them. Those who inherited the Book after them are indeed in grave doubt, amounting to suspicion about it.

15 So call people to that faith and hold fast to it yourself as you are commanded, and do not be led by their desires, but say, 'I believe in the Book which God has sent down, and I am commanded to do justice between you: God is our Lord and your Lord; we are responsible for what we do and you are responsible for what you do. There is no contention between us and you. God will gather us together, for to Him we
shall return.' 16 As for those who
argue about God after He has been accepted, their arguments will carry no weight with their Lord, and His wrath will fall upon them. Severe punishment awaits them.

17 It is God who has sent down the Book with the truth and the scales of justice. What will make you realize that the Hour might
well have drawn near? 18 Those
who do not believe in it seek to hasten it, but those who believe in it dread it, and know it to be the truth. Those who dispute the Hour have gone far astray.

19 God is most Gracious to His

creatures: He provides sustenance for whoever He wills—for He alone is the Powerful One, the Almighty.
20 To him who desires a harvest in the life to come, We shall grant an increase in his harvest; whereas to him who desires [but] a harvest in this world, We [may] give something thereof—but he will have no share in [the blessings of] the life to come.

21 Do they have associate gods who have laid down for them a religion without the permission of God? Had it not been for God's decree on the final Judgement, the matter would have been decided between them. Surely the wrongdoers shall have a painful punishment.
22 You will see the wrongdoers fearful of the consequences of their deeds, which will be inescapable. Whereas, those who have believed and done righteous deeds, will be in the meadows of the Garden and shall have whatever they desire from their Lord. That will be the supreme favour.
23 These are the glad tidings which God gives to His servants who believe and do righteous deeds. Say, 'I do not ask of you any reward for it, except [that I am inviting you to God because of] love of kinship.' Whoever earns a good deed, We shall increase its good for him; God is most forgiving, most appreciative.

24 Do they say, 'He has invented a lie about God'? If God so willed, He could seal your heart. God wipes out falsehood and vindicates the truth by His words. He has full knowledge of what is in men's hearts—
25 He accepts repentance from His servants and pardons their sins. He knows everything you do.
26 He responds to those who believe and do good deeds, and gives them more of His bounty; agonizing torment awaits the deniers of the truth.

27 If God were to grant His abundant provision to [all] His creatures, they would act insolently on earth, but He sends down in due measure whatever He will, for He is well aware of

His servants and watchful over them: [28] it is He who sends rain after they have despaired and spreads His mercy far and wide. He is the Protector, Worthy of All Praise. [29] Among His signs is the creation of the heavens and earth and all the living creatures He has dispersed throughout them: He has the power to gather them all together whenever He will.

[30] Whatever misfortune befalls you is of your own doing—God forgives much—[31] you cannot escape Him anywhere on earth. You have no protector or helper other than God.

[32] Among His signs are the ships sailing like mountains on the sea: [33] if He willed, He could bring the wind to a standstill and they would lie motionless on the surface of the sea—truly there are signs in this for anyone who is steadfast and grateful—[34] or He may cause them to founder because of people's misdeeds—He pardons many of them—[35] those who dispute Our signs shall learn that they have no escape.

[36] Whatever you have been given is only a temporary provision of this life, but that which is with God is better and more lasting for those who believe and put their trust in their Lord; [37] who refrain from heinous sins and gross indecencies; who forgive when they are angry; [38] who respond to their Lord and attend to their prayers; who conduct their affairs by mutual consultation and spend out of what We have provided for them; [39] who, when they are attacked, defend themselves. [40] Let harm be requited by an equal harm. But whoever pardons and amends will find his reward with God. He does not love the wrongdoers. [41] Those who defend themselves after they have been wronged cannot be held blameworthy, [42] blame falls only on those who wrong men and transgress on this earth without justification—such will have a painful punishment—[43] whoever is patient and forgiving, acts with great courage and resolution.

[44] Anyone whom God lets go astray will thereafter have no protector whatsoever: you will see the wrongdoers, when they face the punishment, exclaiming, 'Is there no way back?' [45] You will see them exposed to the Fire, abject in humiliation, glancing furtively at it, while those who believed will say, 'The losers are those ones who have forfeited their souls and their people on the Day of Resurrection.' Truly, the wrongdoers will remain in everlasting torment; [46] they will have no allies to help them against God; there is no way [forward] for those whom God lets go astray.

[47] Respond to your Lord before a Day arrives that will not be averted [against God's will]. You will not find any refuge from God on that Day, nor will you have [any opportunity] to deny your sins. [48] Now if they turn away, We have not sent you [O Prophet] as their keeper: your responsibility is only to convey the message. Man is such that when We let him taste Our mercy, he exults in it, but if an evil befalls him which is his own doing, he becomes utterly ungrateful.

[49] God has control of the heavens and the earth; He creates whatever He will—He grants female offspring to whoever He will, male to whoever He will, [50] or both male and female, and He leaves whoever He will barren; He is all-knowing and all powerful.

[51] It is not granted to any human being that God should speak to him other than by revelation or from behind a veil, or by sending him a messenger, so that the messenger may reveal, by His command, whatsoever He will. Truly, He is exalted and wise. [52] We have thus revealed a Spirit to you [Prophet] by Our command: you knew neither the Scripture nor the faith, but We made it a light, guiding with it whoever We will of Our servants. You are indeed guiding to the straight path, [53] the path of God, to whom belongs all that is in the heavens and on the earth. Indeed all matters return eventually to God.

43. ORNAMENTS OF GOLD

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Ha Mim*

2 By the Book that makes things clear, 3 We have made it an Arabic Quran so that you may understand. 4 Truly, it is inscribed in the Original Book, in Our keeping; it is sublime and full of wisdom.

5 Should We withdraw the admonition from you because you are a people far gone in transgression? 6 We have sent many a prophet to earlier peoples 7 but whenever a prophet came to them, they mocked him, 8 so We destroyed those who were mightier than these; such was the example of the earlier peoples.

9 If you ask them, ‘Who has created the heavens and the earth?’, they will surely answer, ‘The Almighty, the All Knowing One has created them.’ 10 Who has made the earth a cradle for you and made thereon paths for you so that, hopefully, you may find your way 11 It is He who sends water down from the sky in due measure—We revive dead land with it and likewise you will be resurrected from the grave—12 it is He who created all living things in pairs and gave you ships to sail in and beasts to ride upon 13 so that you may sit firmly on their backs. Then once you have mounted them, remember your Lord’s favour and say, ‘Glory be to Him who has subjected these creatures to us; we would never on our own have subdued them. 14 And to our Lord we shall surely return.’

15 Yet they make some of His servants partners in His divinity. Man is clearly ungrateful! 16 Has He then taken daughters out of His own creation and chosen sons for you? 17 When any of them is given the news of the very thing [i.e. a female child]

which he himself has ascribed to
the All Merciful, his face darkens
and he is filled with grief—
18 [‘Do you ascribe to God] one
who is brought up among
ornaments and who cannot
produce a cogent argument?’
19 They consider the angels—
God’s servants—to be female.
Did they witness their creation?
Their claim will be put on record
and they will be questioned about it.

20 They say, ‘If the All Merciful
had so willed, we would not
have worshipped them.’ They
have no knowledge of that. They
are only conjecturing. 21 Have
We given them a Book before
this, to which they are holding
fast? 22 No indeed! They say,
‘We have found our fathers
following a certain course, and
we are guided by their footsteps.’
23 Whenever We sent a messenger
before you to warn a township,
the affluent among them said, in
the same way, ‘We saw our
fathers following this tradition;
we are only following in their
footsteps.’ 24 Each messenger
said, ‘What if I should bring you
better guidance than what you
found your forefathers had?’
They replied, ‘We reject any
message you have been sent
with!’ 25 So We wreaked Our
vengeance on them: now see
what was the end of those who
rejected [the Truth]!

26 Call to mind when Abraham
said to his father and his people,
‘I disown utterly that which you
worship. 27 [I worship] only Him
who created me, and He will
certainly guide me,’ 28 and he
left these words to endure among
his descendants, so that they
might return [to God]. 29 Yes, I
gave the good things of this life
to these [men] and their fathers,
until the truth came to them, and
a messenger expounding things
clearly, 30 but when the truth
came to them, they said, ‘This is
sorcery, and we reject it.’

31 They said, ‘Why was this
Quran not sent down to one of
the great men of the two cities?’
32 Is it they who apportion the
mercy of your Lord? It is We
who distribute among them their
livelihood in the life of this

world, and raise some of them
above others in rank, so that they
may take one another into
service; and the mercy of your
Lord is better than [the wealth]
which they amass. 33 If it were
not that all mankind might have
become one community [of
disbelievers], We could have
given all those who deny the
Lord of Mercy, houses with roofs
of silver, silver staircases to
ascend, 34 and silver doors to
their houses and silver couches
on which to recline, 35 and
ornaments of gold. But all of
these are but the provision of
this present life; it is the life to
come that the Lord reserves for
those who fear Him.

36 As for one who turns away
from the remembrance of the
Gracious God, We appoint for
him a devil, who will become his
intimate companion. 37 Devils
divert men from the [right] way,
while they think that they are
rightly guided. 38 When such a
person comes to Us, he will say
[to his comrade], 'If only you
had been as far away from me as
east is from west. What an evil
comrade!' 39 It will be said [to
such a person], 'You have done
wrong. Having partners in
punishment will be of no avail to
you today.'

40 Can you [Prophet] make the
deaf hear? Or guide either the
blind or those who are in manifest
error? 41 Even if We take you
away from the world, We shall
surely take vengeance on them
42 or We shall show you what We
have promised them; for surely
We have complete power over
them. 43 So, hold fast to the
Book that has been revealed to
you—you are surely on the right
path—44 it is certainly a reminder
to you and to your people and
you will soon be called to
account. 45 Ask those of Our
messengers whom We sent
before you, 'Did We ever appoint
gods to be worshipped besides
the Beneficent One?'

46 We sent Moses with Our
signs to Pharaoh and his nobles.
He said, 'I am the messenger of
the Lord of the Universe,' 47 but
when he came to them with Our

signs, they ridiculed them,
48 even though each sign We
showed them was greater than
the previous one. We afflicted
them with torment so that they
might return [to the right path].
49 They said, 'Sorcerer, call on
your Lord for us, by virtue of His
pledge to you: we shall certainly
accept guidance,' 50 but when
We relieved them of the torment,
they broke their word.

51 Pharaoh called to his people,
'My people, is the Kingdom of
Egypt not mine? And these rivers
that flow at my feet, are they not
mine? Do you not see? 52 Am I
not better than this contemptible
man who can hardly make his
meaning clear: 53 and why have
not armlets of gold been
bestowed on him and why is
there not a train of angels
accompanying him?' 54 In this
way he fooled his people and
they obeyed him: they were a
rebellious people. 55 Then when
they provoked Our wrath,
We took revenge on them
and drowned every one of
them. 56 We made them a
precedent, an example for later
peoples.

57 When [Jesus] the son of
Mary is held up as an example,
your people raise an outcry on
this, 58 saying, 'Are our gods
better or him?'—they cite him
only to challenge you: they are a
contentious people—59 but he
was only a servant We favoured
and made an example for the
Children of Israel: 60 if We had
so wished, We could have
appointed angels in exchange
for you to succeed you on the
earth. 61 He is a sign of the Hour.
Have no doubt about it. But
follow me. This is a straight
path; 62 do not let Satan bar your
way. He is truly your sworn
enemy.

63 When Jesus came with clear
signs, he said, 'Now I have come
to you with wisdom, in order to
make clear to you some of the
things about which you dispute:
therefore fear God and obey me.
64 For God, He is my Lord and
your Lord: so worship Him: that
is a straight path.' 65 The various
factions among them differed—

woe then to those who did wrong: they will suffer the punishment of a painful Day.

66 Are they merely waiting for the Hour, which will come upon them suddenly and take them unawares? 67 On that Day, friends will become each other's enemies, except the righteous— 68 'O My servants, you need not fear this Day, nor shall you grieve'— 69 those who believed in Our revelations and surrendered themselves to Us. 70 'Enter the Garden rejoicing, both you and your spouses!' 71 Dishes and goblets of gold will be passed around them with all that their souls desire and their eyes delight in. 'There you will remain forever: 72 this is the Garden which you will inherit by virtue of your past deeds, 73 and there is abundant fruit in it for you to eat.'

74 As for the evil-doers, they shall endure forever the torment of Hell, 75 from which there is no relief: they will remain there in utter despair. 76 We have not wronged them; it was they who were the wrongdoers. 77 They will cry, 'Master, if only your Lord would put an end to us!' But he [the angel] will answer, 'No! You are here to stay.' 78 We have certainly brought the truth to you: but most of you have an aversion for the truth. 79 Have they determined upon a course? Then We too are determined. 80 Do they imagine We do not hear their secret talk and their private counsels? On the contrary, Our messengers [angels] are at their sides, recording everything.

81 Say, 'If the All Merciful had a son, I would be the first to worship him.' 82 But—exalted be the Lord of the heavens and earth, the Lord of the Throne— He is far above their [false] descriptions. 83 So leave them alone to indulge in vain discourse and amuse themselves until they come face to face with that Day which they have been promised.

84 It is He who is God in heaven, and God on earth: He is the Wise One, the All Knowing; 85 blessed be He who has

sovereignty over the kingdom of
the heavens and the earth and all
that lies between them. He alone
has knowledge of the Hour, and
to Him you shall be returned.
86 Those whom they invoke
besides God have no power of
intercession, only those who bear
witness to the truth and they
know. 87 And if you ask them
who created them, they will
surely say, God. How then are
they turned away? 88 The Prophet
has said, 'Lord! Truly they are a
people who do not believe.'
89 Then bear with them [O
Muhammad] and say, 'Peace.'
They will soon come to know.

44. SMOKE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Ha Mim*

2 By the Book that makes
things clear, 3 surely We sent it
down on a blessed night—We
have always sent warnings—4 on
that night every wise decree is
specified 5 by Our own
command—We have been
sending messages, 6 as a mercy
from your Lord, He hears all and
knows all, 7 He is the Lord of
heaven and earth and all that is
between them—if only you
would really believe—8 there is
no deity save Him: It is He who
gives both life and death—He is
your Lord, and the Lord of your
forefathers, 9 yet, they toy with
their doubts. 10 [Prophet], watch
out for the Day when the sky
brings forth plainly visible clouds
of smoke. 11 That will envelop
the people. This will be a painful
punishment. 12 Then they will
say, 'Lord, relieve us from this
torment, for truly we are now
believers in You.' 13 How can
they benefit from admonition,
seeing that a messenger had
already come to them explaining
things clearly? 14 Then they
turned away from him and said,
'He is a madman, taught by

others!' 15 Were We to ease the torment for a while, you would still revert to denial of the truth. 16 On the Day We inflict the direst scourge upon all sinners, We will certainly exact retribution.

17 We tried the people of Pharaoh before them: a noble messenger was sent to them, 18 saying, 'Hand over God's servants to me. I am a trustworthy messenger for you. 19 Do not set yourselves above God: I bring you clear authority. 20 I have sought refuge with my Lord and your Lord lest you stone me [to death]. 21 If you do not believe in me, at least keep away from me.'

22 Then he cried out to his Lord, 'These are sinful people.' 23 God said, 'Set out with My servants by night, for you will certainly be pursued. 24 Leave the sea behind you parted; they are a host destined to be drowned.' 25 How many gardens and fountains they left behind them, 26 and cornfields and splendid buildings, 27 and pleasant things in which they delighted! 28 Such was their end, and what had been theirs We gave to other people to inherit. 29 Neither heaven nor earth wept for them, nor were they allowed any respite.

30 We saved the Children of Israel from their humiliating torment 31 at the hands of Pharaoh: he was a tyrant who exceeded all bounds. 32 We knowingly chose them above all other people 33 and showed them signs in which there was a clear test.

34 Yet those who deny the truth say, 35 there is nothing beyond our first death; we shall not be raised again. 36 So bring our fathers [back], if what you say is true. 37 Are they better than the people of Tubba' and those who came before them? We destroyed them, because they were guilty of sin.

38 We did not idly create the heavens and the earth and all that lies between them; 39 We did not create them save with a purpose, yet most people have no knowledge of this. 40 Truly,

the Day of Decision is the appointed time for all of them,
[41] the Day when no friend shall be of the least avail to another, nor shall any be helped, [42] save those to whom God shows mercy. Surely, He is the Mighty, the Merciful One.[a]

[43] Surely the fruit of the Zaqqum tree [44] shall be food for the sinners: [45] like the dregs of oil, it shall boil in their bellies,
[46] like the boiling of hot water.
[47] [A voice will cry], 'Seize him and drag him into the midst of Hell. [48] Then pour boiling water over his head as punishment.
[49] Taste this; you who considered yourself the mighty, the honourable! [50] This is what you doubted?'

[51] But those mindful of God will be in a safe place, [52] among gardens and springs, [53] dressed in fine silk and in rich brocade, and they will face each other:
[54] so it will be. We shall wed them to maidens with large, dark eyes. [55] They will call therein for every kind of fruit, in peace and security. [56] They will not taste death therein, save the first death. God will save them from the torment of Hell [57] as an act of grace. That will be the supreme triumph.

[58] We have made this Quran easy to understand—in your own language—so that they may take heed. [59] Wait then; they too are waiting.

---

[a] If one ponders over the system of heaven and earth—indeed, of the entire universe, it will become clear that its creation was effected with a definite purpose. Had this not been so, it would have been impossible in this world for man to build up glorious cultures. Its entire functioning being meaningful is an indication that it will end also in a meaningful and purposeful way. It is unimaginable that its end could be otherwise. Its end, in reality, will herald the commencement of the life Hereafter. And belief in the Hereafter is but an extension of universal meaningfulness. The present stage of the world is that of trial. So, everyone has his share in the meaningfulness of this world. But, in the Hereafter, only those who are actually deserving in the eyes of God, will have a share in the meaningfulness of the afterlife.

45. KNEELING

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Ha Mim*

2 This Scripture is sent down
from God, the Mighty and Wise
One. 3 There are signs in the
heavens and the earth for those
who believe: 4 in your own
creation and all the creatures He
has spread about, there are signs
for people of sure faith; 5 and in
the succession of night and day,
and in the means of subsistence
which God sends down from the
skies, giving life thereby to the
earth after it had been lifeless,
and in the circulation of the
winds: [in all this] there are
signs for people who use their
reason. 6 These are God's
revelations, which We recite to
you in all truth. But if they deny
God and His revelations, in what
message will they believe?

7 Woe to every sinful liar! 8 He
hears God's revelations being
recited to him, yet persists in his
arrogance as if he had never
heard them. Forewarn him of a
painful punishment. 9 When he
learns something of Our
revelations, he derides them: for
such there will be humiliating
torment. 10 In front of them is
Hell; and of no profit to them is
anything they may have earned,
nor any protectors they may have
taken to themselves besides God:
for them there shall be a terrible
punishment. 11 Such is Our
guidance; those who reject their
Lord's revelations shall suffer a
woeful punishment.

12 It is God who has subjected
the sea to you so that you may
sail thereon by His command,
and so that you may seek His
bounty, and so that you may be
grateful. 13 He has subjected
whatever is in heaven and on the
earth to you; it is all from Him.
In that are signs for those who
ponder.

14 Tell the believers to ignore
those who do not believe in the

coming of the days of God. He
will requite people for what they
have done. 15 Whoever does what
is just and right, does so for his
own good; and whoever does
evil, does so to his own detriment,
and you shall all return to your
Lord.

16 We gave Scriptures, wisdom
and prophethood to the Children
of Israel, and provided them
with good things and favoured
them over all other people. 17 We
gave them clear arguments in
matters [of religion]. It was only
after knowledge came to them
that they differed among
themselves out of mutual rivalry.
On the Day of Resurrection your
Lord will judge between them
regarding their differences.
18 Then We set you on a clear
path [of religion]: so follow it,
and do not yield to the desires of
those who have no knowledge.
19 They can be of no avail to you
against God. The wrongdoers
are friends of one another, while
the friend of the righteous is
God. 20 This [Book] brings
enlightenment and guidance to
mankind, and is a blessing for
those who have firm faith.

21 Do those who commit evil
deeds imagine that We shall deal
with them in the same way as We
deal with those who have attained
to faith and do righteous deeds,
that they will be alike in their
living and their dying? How
badly they judge! 22 God has
created the heavens and the earth
for a true purpose, so that every
soul may be rewarded for
whatever it has earned, and no
one will be wronged.

23 [Prophet], consider the one
who has taken his own desire as
a deity, whom God allows to
stray in the face of knowledge,
sealing his ears and heart and
covering his eyes—who can
guide such a person after God
[has abandoned him]? Will you
not take heed?

24 They say, ‘There is nothing
but our life in this world: we die,
we live, nothing but time destroys
us.’ They have no knowledge
of this; they only follow
conjecture. 25 Whenever Our
clear revelations are recited to

them, their only argument is to
say, 'Bring back to us our
forefathers, if what you say be
true.' 26 Say, 'God gives you life,
then causes you to die, and then
will gather you together for the
Day of Resurrection, about which
there is no doubt. But most
people do not know it.'
27 To God belongs the kingdom
of the heavens and the earth; on
the Day when the Hour comes,
those who follow falsehood will
be the losers. 28 You will see
every people on their knees, every
people shall be summoned to its
Record [and a voice will say],
'Today you will be requited for
your deeds. 29 This record of
ours will declare the truth about
you: We have been recording
whatever you have been doing.'
30 Those who believed and did
good deeds will be admitted by
their Lord into His mercy—that
shall be the manifest triumph.
31 But those who rejected the
truth [will be asked], 'When My
revelations were recited to you,
were you not arrogant and did
you not persist in wicked deeds?
32 When it was said to you,
"God's promise is true: there is
no doubt about the Hour," did
you not reply, "We do not know
what the Hour is. We think it to
be nothing but a conjecture, and
we are not convinced"?'
33 The evil of their actions will
then become clear to them. The
punishment they mocked will
engulf them. 34 It will be said to
them, 'This Day We shall forget
you, as you yourselves forgot
that you would meet this Day.
Your abode shall be the Fire,
and you shall have no helpers.
35 That is because you made a
mockery of God's revelations
and were deluded by the life of
this world.' Therefore, today they
will not be brought out of the
Fire, nor will they be allowed to
make amends.
36 Praise, then, be to God, Lord
of the heavens, and Lord of the
earth, the Lord of all the worlds.
37 All greatness belongs to Him
in the heavens and earth. He is
the Almighty, the All Wise.

46. THE SAND DUNES

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Ha Mim*

2 This Book is sent down from God, the Almighty, the Wise One. 3 We created the heavens and the earth and all that lies between them purely for just ends, and for a specific term, but those who reject Faith turn away from what they have been warned of.

4 Say, 'Have you thought about those you call upon apart from God? Show me what they have created on the earth. Or do they have a share in the heavens? Bring me a Book revealed before this or some other vestige of knowledge, if you are telling the truth. 5 And who is more misguided than one who invokes, besides God, such as will not answer him until the Day of Resurrection, and who [in fact] are not even aware of his call, 6 and when mankind are gathered together, they will become their enemies, and will deny their worship?

7 And whenever Our clear revelations are recited to them and the Truth is brought to them, those who deny the truth say, 'This is plain magic.' 8 Do they mean to say that the Messenger himself has fabricated it? Say [O Muhammad], 'If I have fabricated it myself, you will not be able to do anything to save me from God. He knows quite well what talk you indulge in. He is enough as a witness between me and you; and He is the Forgiving, the Merciful One.'

9 Say, 'I am not the first of God's messengers, and I do not know what will be done with me or with you: I do not follow anything but what is revealed to me, and I am merely a plain warner.' 10 Say, 'Have you thought: what if this Quran really is from God and you reject it? What if one of the Children of

Israel testifies to its similarity to earlier scripture and believes in it, and yet you are too arrogant to do the same? God certainly does not guide evil-doers.'

11 Those who deny the truth say of the believers, 'If there were any good in this Quran, they would not have believed in it before we did.' And since they refuse to be guided by it, they say, 'This is an ancient fabrication.'

12 Yet the scripture of Moses was revealed before it as a guide and a blessing; and this is a Book in the Arabic language, fulfilling [previous prophecies], to forewarn those who do evil and to bring good news to those who do good. 13 Surely those who say, 'Our Lord is God,' and remain firm [on that path] shall feel no fear, nor shall they grieve: 14 it is they who are the people of Paradise, they shall abide therein as a reward for all that they have done.

15 We have enjoined on man kindness to his parents: his mother bore him, in pain and in pain she gave birth to him, and his bearing and weaning takes thirty months. At length, when he reaches the age of full maturity and attains forty years, he says, 'O my Lord! Help me to be grateful for Your favours which You have bestowed upon me, and upon both my parents, and to do good deeds that will please You. Grant me righteousness in my offspring. Truly, I have turned to You and, truly, I submit to You.' 16 We accept from such people the best of what they do and We overlook their bad deeds. They will be among the people of Paradise—this is a true promise that has been given to them.

17 But he who says to his parents, 'Shame upon you! Do you threaten me with being taken out of the grave after death while many a generation has passed away before me and none has risen from among them?' The parents both cry for God's help and say to him, 'Believe! Alas for you! God's promise is true.' But he says, 'These are nothing but ancient fables.' 18 It is against such as these that the word of

God has proved true, along with
all the communities that went
before them, jinns and humans:
surely they are losers.

19 All will be ranked according
to their deeds. We will requite
them in full for their actions and
they will not be wronged. 20 On
the Day when those who deny
the truth are brought before the
Fire, it will be said to them, ‘You
have had the good things of the
life of this world, and you
enjoyed them. Now this Day you
shall be requited with humiliating
punishment, because you were
arrogant in the land without
justification, and because you
acted rebelliously.’

21 Tell of the brother of ‘Ad;
when he warned his people in
the sand dunes—and indeed
warners came and went before
him and after him—saying,
‘Worship none but God; surely I
fear for you the punishment of
an awful Day,’ 22 but they said,
‘Have you come to us to turn us
away from our deities? Then
bring down upon us what you
threaten us with, if you are
truthful.’ 23 He said, ‘God alone
knows when it will come, and I
deliver to you the message with
which I am sent, but I see you are
a people who are ignorant.’

24 So, when they saw it in the
shape of a dense cloud
approaching their valleys, they
exclaimed, ‘This is only a heavy
cloud which will bring us
[welcome] rain!’ [But Hud said]:
‘By no means! It is the very thing
which you sought to hasten—a
wind bearing grievous suffering
25 which will destroy everything
at its Lord’s behest!’ And in the
morning there was nothing left
to be seen save their [empty]
dwellings: thus We repay the
evil-doers.

26 We had empowered them to
an extent which We have not
empowered you, [O people of
later times]; and We had endowed
them with hearing, and sight,
and hearts: but neither their
hearing, nor their sight, nor their
hearts were of the least avail to
them, since they went on
rejecting God’s revelations; and
they were overwhelmed by the

very thing which they had been wont to deride. 27 We have also destroyed other towns that once [flourished] around you—We had given them various signs so that they might return [to the right path]—28 so why did their gods not help them, those they set up as gods besides God to bring them nearer to Him? No indeed! They failed them utterly: it was all a lie, a fabrication of their own making.

29 Remember how We sent to you a band of jinn who wished to hear the Quran and as they listened to its recitation, they said to one another, 'Be silent and listen,' and, then when it was finished, they went back to their people, to give them warning. 30 They said, 'O our people, we have heard a Book, which has been sent down after Moses, fulfilling the predictions existing in previous scriptures; it guides to the truth, and to the right path. 31 Our people, respond to the one who calls you to God. Believe in him! God will forgive you your sins and protect you from a painful punishment. 32 But he who does not respond to God's calls can never elude [Him] on earth, nor can he have any protector against Him. Such people have clearly gone far astray.'

33 Have they not seen that God, who created the heavens and the earth and was not wearied by their creation, has the power to bring the dead back to life? Yes, indeed, He has power over all things. 34 On the Day when those who deny the truth will be brought before the Fire, they shall be asked, 'Is this not the truth?' They will reply, 'Yes, by our Lord.' He will say, 'Then taste the punishment, because of your denial of the truth.'

35 Have patience, then, as had the steadfast Messengers before you; and be in no haste about them. On the Day when they see what they are threatened with, it will appear to them as though they had not tarried longer than an hour of a day. [Your responsibility is] to deliver the message: and none but the disobedient shall be destroyed.

47. MUHAMMAD

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 God will bring to naught all the
good deeds of those who are
bent on denying the truth and bar
[others] from the path of God.
2 As for those who believe and
do good deeds and believe in
what has been revealed to
Muhammad—and it is the truth
from their Lord—God will
remove their sins from them and
set their condition right. 3 That is
because the ones who deny the
truth follow falsehood, while
those who believe follow the
Truth from their Lord. Thus God
sets forth comparisons for
mankind.

4 When you meet those who
deny the truth in battle, strike
them in the neck,[a] and once they
are defeated, make [them]
prisoners, and afterwards either
set them free as an act of grace,
or let them ransom [themselves]
until the war is finally over. Thus
you shall do; and if God had
pleased, He would certainly have
exacted retribution from them,
but His purpose is to test some of
you by means of others. As for
those who are killed in God's
cause, He will never let their
deeds be in vain; 5 He will guide
them and improve their
condition; 6 He will admit them
into the Garden He has already
made known to them.

7 Believers! If you succour
God, He will succour you and
make your footsteps firm. 8 But
as for those who are bent on
denying the truth, destruction
will be their lot, and [God] will
make their deeds come to
nothing. 9 It is because they are
averse to what God has revealed
that He has rendered their deeds
futile. 10 Have they not travelled
the earth and seen how those
before them met their end? God
destroyed them utterly: a similar

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

fate awaits those who deny the
truth. 11 That is because God is
the protector of the believers,
and those who deny the truth
have no protector at all.

12 God will admit those who
believe and do good deeds to
Gardens through which rivers
flow. Those who deny the truth
may take their fill of pleasure in
this world, and eat as cattle do,
but the Fire will be their ultimate
abode. 13 How many towns We
have destroyed, greater in
strength than your city which
has driven you out, and there
was no one to help them.

14 Can then he who takes his
stand on clear evidence from his
God be likened to those for
whom the evil that they do is
made to look beautiful, and who
follow their own desires? 15 Here
is a description of the Garden
promised to the righteous: therein
are rivers of water which is
forever pure; and rivers of milk
of which the taste never changes;
and rivers of wine, a delight to
those who drink it, and rivers of
pure honey. And in it they will
have all kinds of fruit, and will
receive forgiveness from their
Lord. Can those who enjoy such
bliss be like those who abide in
the Fire and who are given
boiling water to drink so that it
tears their bowels?

16 Among them are those who
listen to you, but then, when
they leave your presence, say to
those who have been given
knowledge [Scripture], “What
was that he just said?” Such are
those whose hearts God has
sealed, and who follow their
own base desires. 17 But as for
those who follow guidance, He
adds to their guidance, and shows
them the way to righteousness.

18 Are they awaiting the Hour
of Doom to come upon them
suddenly? Its signs have already
come. But of what avail will
their admonition be to them when
it has actually come upon them?
19 Know then that there is no god
except God. Ask forgiveness for
your wrongdoing, and for the
men and women who believe.
God knows both your movements
and your lodging.

[20] Those who believe ask why no chapter [about fighting] has been sent down. Yet when a decisive chapter that mentions fighting is sent down, you can see the sick of heart looking at you [Prophet] as if they were under the shadow of death. Therefore, woe to them! [21] Obedience and saying what is just would become them more; when the decision is taken, it would be better for them if they acted sincerely towards God. [22] Then if you turn away, you are likely to spread corruption on the earth and sever your ties of kinship. [23] Such are those whom God has rejected, making their ears deaf and their eyes blind.

[24] Will they not, then, ponder over this Quran? Or are there locks upon their hearts? [25] Surely, those who turn their backs [on this message] after guidance has been shown to them, [do it because] Satan has embellished their fancies and God gives them respite; [26] because they say to those who abhor what God has revealed, ‘We will obey you in some matters.’ God knows their secrets. [27] Then how will it be when the angels take their souls, beating them on their faces and their backs, [28] because they followed the way that made God wrathful, and hated to adopt the way of His pleasure? So He made their actions come to nothing.

[29] Do the sick at heart imagine that God will not bring to light their malice? [30] Now had We so willed, We could have shown them clearly to you, and then you could have identified them by their marks, but surely you will know them by the tone of their speech! God knows all that you do.

[31] Most certainly We will try you until We have discovered those among you who strive their hardest, and those who are steadfast, and will test your record. [32] Surely, they who are bent on denying the truth and on barring [others] from the path of God, and oppose the Messenger when they have been shown guidance, cannot harm God in

any way. He will cause all their deeds to come to nothing.

33 Believers, obey God and obey the Messenger: do not let your deeds go to waste—34 surely those who reject the truth and bar others from the path of God, then die as deniers of the truth, will not be granted forgiveness by God. 35 So do not lose heart or appeal for peace when you have gained the upper hand. God is with you and will never let your works go to waste.

36 The life of this world is only a game, a pastime, but if you believe and are mindful of God, He will recompense you and will not ask you for your wealth. 37 If He were to ask it [wealth] of you, and continued to press you, you would be niggardly, and this would show your ill-will. 38 Behold! You are those who are called upon to spend for God's cause, but among you are those who are niggardly, and whoever stints does so against his own self. Indeed, God is self-sufficient, but you stand in need [of Him], and if you turn back, He will bring in your place another people, who will not be like you.

48. VICTORY

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Truly, We have granted you a clear victory 2 so that God may forgive you your past and future sins and complete His favour to you and guide you to a straight path, 3 and so that God might bestow on you His mighty help.

4 It was He who sent down tranquillity into the hearts of the believers, to add faith to their faith—the forces of the heavens and earth belong to Him; He is all knowing and all wise—5 and so that He might admit the believers, men and women, into Gardens through which rivers flow, to dwell therein forever, and so that He may remove their

evils from them—that is, indeed, a supreme triumph in God's eyes—6 and so that He might punish hypocritical men and women as well as the polytheists men and women who think evil thoughts about God; an evil turn of fortune will fall upon them, for God has become angry with them, and has rejected them and prepared Hell for them. How evil is such a destination. 7 The forces of heavens and earth belong to God; He is almighty and all wise.

8 We have sent you forth as a witness and a bearer of good tidings and a warner, 9 so that you may believe in God and His Messenger, and may help him, and honour him, and so that you may glorify God morning and evening. 10 Behold, all who pledge their allegiance to you indeed pledge their allegiance to God: the hand of God is over their hands. Hence, he who breaks his oath, breaks it only to his own loss. Whereas he who remains true to what he has pledged to God, shall have a great reward bestowed upon him by God.

11 Those desert Arabs who remained behind will say to you, 'Our belongings and our families kept us occupied, so ask forgiveness for us.' They will say with their tongues what is not in their hearts. Say, 'Who then has any power at all [to intervene] on your behalf with God, if His will is to do you harm, or if He intends to do you good? Indeed, God is well aware of all that you do.' 12 No. You thought that the Messenger and the believers would never return to their families; this prospect seemed pleasing to your hearts, and you conceived evil thoughts, and thus were doomed to perish. 13 For those who deny the truth, who do not believe in God and His Messenger, We have prepared a blazing Fire. 14 To God belongs the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. He forgives whom He pleases, and punishes whom He pleases. And God is most forgiving and merciful.

15 When you [believers] set

off to gather the spoils, those
that stayed behind will say, 'Let
us come with you.' They want to
change God's word, but tell them,
'You shall not follow us. God
has declared this beforehand.'
Then they will say, 'You are
jealous of us.' But how little
they understand!
16 Say to the desert Arabs who
stayed behind, 'You shall be
called against a mighty people;
then shall you fight, unless they
submit. Then if you prove
obedient, God will grant you a
good reward, but if You turn
back as you did before, He will
inflict on you a painful
punishment—17 the blind, the
lame, and the sick will not be
blamed.' God will admit anyone
who obeys Him and His
Messenger to Gardens through
which rivers flow. But whoever
turns back shall be severely
punished by Him.
18 God was pleased with the
believers when they swore
allegiance to you [Prophet] under
the tree: He knew what was in
their hearts and so He sent
tranquillity down to them and
rewarded them with a victory
near at hand 19 and with many
future gains—God is mighty and
wise. 20 God has promised you
many future gains, and He has
given you these in advance; and
He has restrained the hands of
men from harming you, so that it
may be a sign for the believers,
and so that He may guide you to
a straight path. 21 And there are
yet other [gains] which are still
beyond your grasp, [but] which
God has already encompassed
[for you]: for God has power
over all things.
22 If those who deny the truth
were to fight you, they would
certainly turn their backs; then
they would find neither protector
nor helper: 23 such was the law
of God in the past; and you shall
find no change in the law of
God. 24 It is He who withheld
their hands from you, and your
hands from them in the valley of
Makkah, after giving you victory
over them. God sees what
you do.
25 It was they who were bent

on denying the truth, and who debarred you from the Sacred Mosque and who prevented your offering from reaching its place of sacrifice. And had it not been for the believing men and believing women [in Makkah] whom you might unwittingly have trampled underfoot, and on whose account you might have, unknowingly, become guilty, [God would have commanded you to fight it out with them; but He ordained it thus] so that He may bring whoever He will into His mercy. If they [the believers] had been clearly separated, We would have punished those who were bent on denying the truth with a painful punishment.

26 While those who deny the truth made it a prestige issue [in their hearts]—the bigotry of the days of ignorance—God sent His tranquillity down on to His Messenger and believers and firmly established in them the principle of righteousness, for they were indeed better entitled to it and more worthy of it. God has full knowledge of all things.

27 God has in all truth shown His Messenger a true vision in which He said, 'God willing, you will most certainly enter the Sacred Mosque in safety and without fear, shaven-headed or with hair cut short'—God knew what you did not; and has given you a victory beforehand.

28 He is the One who has sent His Messenger with guidance and the true religion, so that He may have it prevail over all [other] religions. God suffices as a witness!

29 Muhammad is the Messenger of God. Those who are with him are firm and unyielding towards those who deny the truth, but compassionate towards one another. You see them bowing and prostrating themselves, seeking the grace of God and His good will. Their marks are on their faces, the traces of their prostrations; they are described in the Torah and in the Gospel as being like a seed which sends forth its shoot, then makes it strong; it then becomes thick, and it stands firm on its

own stem, delighting the sowers. He seeks to enrage the disbelievers through them. God has promised forgiveness and a great reward to those of them who believe and do good works.

49. THE APARTMENTS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Believers, do not push yourselves forward in the presence of God and His Messenger. Fear God—God hears all and knows all.

2 Believers, do not raise your voices above the voice of the Prophet, and do not speak as loudly when speaking to him as you do when speaking to one another, lest your actions come to nothing without your realizing
it. 3 Those who lower their voices in the presence of God's Messenger are men whose hearts God has tested for piety—they shall have forgiveness and a great
reward—4 those who call out to you from outside your apartments
are lacking in understanding. 5 If they waited patiently until you came out to see them, it would be better for them. But God is forgiving and merciful.

6 Believers, if an evil-doer brings you news, ascertain the correctness of the report fully, lest you unwittingly harm others, and then regret what you have
done,7 and know that the Messenger of God is among you. If he were to obey you in many things, you would suffer for it. However, God has endeared the faith to you, and beautified it in your hearts, and has made denial of the truth, wickedness, and disobedience hateful to you. People such as these are rightly
guided 8 through God's bounty and favour; God is all knowing, and wise.

9 If two parties of believers fight against each other, make

peace between them; then if after that one of them transgresses against the other, fight the party that transgresses until it submits to the command of God. Then if it complies, make peace between them with equity, and act justly. Truly, God loves the just.
[10] Surely all believers are brothers. So make peace between your brothers, and fear God, so that mercy may be shown to you.

[11] Believers, let not some men among you ridicule others: it may be that the latter are better than the former: nor should some women laugh at others: it may be that the latter are better than the former: do not defame or be sarcastic to each other, or call each other by [offensive] nicknames. How bad it is to earn an evil reputation after accepting the faith! Those who do not repent are evil-doers.

[12] Believers, avoid much suspicion. Indeed some suspicion is a crime. And do not spy on one another and do not backbite. Would any of you like to eat his dead brother's flesh? No, you would hate it. Fear God, God is ever forgiving and most merciful.

[13] Mankind! We have created you from a male and female, and made you into peoples and tribes, so that you might come to know each other. The noblest of you in God's sight is the one who fears God most. God is all knowing and all-aware.

[14] The Arabs of the desert say, 'We have believed.' Say to them, 'You have not believed yet; say rather, "We have submitted," for faith has not yet entered into your hearts. But if you will obey God and His Messenger, He will not detract anything from your good deeds. God is most forgiving and ever merciful.'
[15] The believers are only those who have faith in God and His Messenger and then doubt not, but strive, hard with their wealth and their persons for the cause of God. Such are the truthful ones.

[16] Say, 'Do you presume to teach God your religion when God knows everything in the heavens and earth? God has knowledge of all things.' [17] They

think they have done you a favour
by becoming Muslims! Say, ‘Do
not consider your Islam a favour
to me. No indeed! It is God who
bestowed a favour on you by
guiding you to the true faith.
[Admit this], if you are telling
the truth.’ 18 God knows the unseen
things of the heavens and the
earth. God sees all that you do.

50. *QAF*

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Qaf*

By the glorious Quran! 2 Indeed,
they are astonished that a warner
should have come to them from
among themselves. So these
deniers of the truth say, ‘This is
indeed a strange thing, 3 to come
back to life after we have died
and become dust? That is most
improbable!’ 4 We know very
well what the earth takes away
from them: We hold a book
which records all things. 5 But
they denied the truth when it
came to them, so they are in a
state of confusion.

6 Have they not observed the
sky above them and marked how
We have built it and adorned it,
leaving no flaws in it; 7 We spread
out the earth and set upon it solid
mountains and We brought forth
from it all kinds of delightful
plants, 8 as a lesson and reminder
for every human being who turns
to God; 9 and We have sent down
from the sky blessed water with
which We have brought forth
gardens and grain to be harvested,
10 and tall palm-trees with their
thickly-clustered dates, 11 as a
provision for human beings; and
by [all] this We bring dead land
to life. Such shall be the
Resurrection.

12 Before them, the people of
Noah and the people of Rass
denied this truth; and so did the
people of Thamud. 13 And the

tribe of ‘Ad, and Pharaoh, and the brethren of Lot, 14 and the dwellers of the Wood, and the people of Tubba‘: every one denied their messengers, and so My warning came true. 15 Were We then worn out by the first creation? Yet they are in doubt about a second creation.

16 We created man—We know the promptings of his soul, and are closer to him than his jugular vein—17 and the two recording angels are recording, sitting on the right and the left: 18 each word he utters shall be noted down by a vigilant guardian.

19 The trance of death will come revealing the truth: that is what you were trying to escape. 20 The trumpet will be sounded. This is the Day [you were] warned of. 21 Each person will arrive attended by an [angel] to drive him on and another to bear witness. 22 You were heedless of this, but now We have removed your veil, so your sight today is sharp. 23 His companion attendant will say, ‘I have here his record ready.’ 24 ‘Cast into Hell every ungrateful, rebellious one, 25 hinderer of good, transgressor, causing others to doubt, 26 who has set up another god besides God: cast him into severe punishment’—27 and his associate [Satan] will say, ‘Lord, I did not make him transgress, he had already gone far astray himself.’ 28 God will say, ‘Do not quarrel in My presence. I gave you the warning beforehand 29 and My word shall not be changed, nor am I unjust to My servants.’

30 On that Day, We shall ask Hell, ‘Are you now full?’ Hell will answer, ‘Are there any more?’ 31 Paradise will be brought near to the righteous and will no longer be far away. 32 This is what you were promised—this is for everyone who often turned to God and kept Him in mind, 33 who fears the Compassionate One, though He is unseen, and comes to Him with a penitent heart; 34 so enter it in peace. This is the Day of everlasting life. 35 There they shall have all that they desire, and there is even more with Us.

[36] How many a generation, far greater in prowess, have We destroyed before them! They searched the entire land: but could they find a refuge? [37] There is truly a reminder in this for whoever has a heart, whoever listens attentively.

[38] We created the heavens, the earth, and everything between them in six days [periods] nor were We ever wearied. [39] So bear with patience what they say, and glorify your Lord with His praise, before the rising and before the setting of the sun; [40] proclaim His praise in the night and at the end of every prayer.

[41] Hearken! The Day when the caller will call from near. [42] The Day when men will hear the fateful cry, they will rise up [from their graves]. [43] Truly, it is We who give life and cause death, and to Us shall all return [44] on the Day the earth will be rent asunder over them, and from it they shall emerge in haste. To assemble them all is easy enough for Us.

[45] We know best what those who deny the truth say. You are not there to force them: so remind, with this Quran, those who fear My warning.

51. SCATTERING WINDS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] By the winds that scatter the dust, [2] and those that bear the burden [of the rain], [3] and those speeding along with ease, [4] and distributing the command of God at His behest! [5] What you are promised is certainly true: [6] the Judgement will surely come to pass—[7] by the heaven full of tracks, [8] surely you are deeply at variance [as to what to believe]—[9] he is turned away from [the truth] who is destined to be so turned away.

10 May the conjecturers perish,
11 who flounder in the depths of
ignorance. 12 They ask, 'When
will the Day of Judgement
come?' 13 It will be the Day
when they are tormented at the
Fire. 14 'Taste your trial. This is
what you sought to hasten.'
15 Surely the God-fearing will
find themselves in the midst of
gardens and springs. 16 They shall
receive what their Lord will
bestow on them. They have done
good works in the past, 17 sleeping
little in the night-time, 18 praying
at dawn for God's pardon, 19 and
sharing their possessions with the
beggars and the deprived.

20 On the earth, and in
yourselves, 21 there are signs for
firm believers. Do you not see
then? 22 In heaven is your
sustenance, and also that which
you are promised. 23 By the Lord
of the heaven and the earth, it is
certainly the truth. It is as true as
your ability to speak.

24 Have you heard the story of
Abraham's honoured guests?
25 When they came to him they
said, 'Peace!' He answered,
'Peace!' [saying to himself].
'They are strangers.' 26 Then he
turned quickly to his household,
and brought a fatted calf, 27 and
placed it before them. 'Will you
not eat?' he said, 28 beginning to
be afraid of them. But they said,
'Don't be afraid'; and they gave
him the good news of a son who
would be endowed with
knowledge. 29 Then his wife came
forward, crying and beating her
brow. She said, 'I am surely a
barren, old woman.' 30 'Such is
the will of your Lord,' they replied.
'He is the Wise, the All Knowing.'

31 Abraham asked, 'What is
your errand, O messengers?'
32 They replied, 'We have been
sent to a sinful people, 33 so that
we may bring down upon them a
shower of stones of clay, 34 which
are marked by your Lord for the
punishment of those guilty of
excesses.' 35 We saved all the
faithful in the town. 36 We found
in it only one household of true
believers—37 and We left therein
a sign for those who fear a
painful punishment.

38 There is another sign in

Moses: We sent him to Pharaoh
with clear authority. 39 But he
turned his back, he and his
courtiers, and said, 'This is a
sorcerer or a madman.' 40 Then
We seized him and his army and
cast them all into the sea: he
himself [Pharaoh] was to blame.
41 There is another sign in the
[tribe of] 'Ad, when We sent
against them a life-destroying
wind 42 and it destroyed
everything over which it passed
and reduced it to dust. 43 In the
Thamud [there was another sign],
when they were told, 'Make the
most of your lives for a while.'
44 But they rebelled against the
command of their Lord. So the
thunderbolt overtook them while
they looked on: 45 they could not
stand up again, nor could they
defend themselves. 46 [We
destroyed] the people of Noah
before them. They were certainly
a sinful people.

47 We built the universe with
Our might, giving it its vast
expanse. 48 We have spread out
the earth—how well We have
spread it out—49 and We created
pairs of all things so that you
might reflect. 50 Therefore hasten
to God; truly, I am sent by Him
to give you clear warning. 51 Do
not set up another god, along
with God. I come from Him to
warn you plainly.

52 Likewise, there came no
messenger to those before them,
but they said, 'He is a sorcerer or
a madman.' 53 Have they handed
this down to one another? They
are certainly a people who exceed
all bounds, 54 so ignore them—
you are not to blame—55 but
keep on exhorting them, for
exhortation benefits the believers.

56 I created the jinn and
mankind only so that they might
worship Me: 57 I seek no
sustenance from them, nor do I
want them to feed Me—58 it is
God who is the great Sustainer,
the Mighty One, the Invincible.
59 The wrongdoers will meet the
same fate as their predecessors—
let them not ask Me to hasten on
[the punishment]—60 woe, then,
to those who are bent on denying
the truth, when the Day arrives
which they have been promised.

52. MOUNT SINAI

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 By the Mount Sinai, 2 and by
the Scripture penned 3 on
unrolled parchment, 4 by the
much-visited House, 5 and by
the lofty vault of the sky, 6 and
by the swelling sea, 7 the
punishment of your Lord shall
certainly come to pass— 8 there
is no one who could avert it—
9 on the Day when the skies are
convulsed, 10 and the mountains
shudder and shake. 11 Woe on
that Day to those who deny the
truth, 12 who divert themselves
with idle chatter: 13 on that Day
they shall be ruthlessly thrust
into the Fire of Hell. 14 This is
the fire which you used to deny.
15 Is this magic or do you not
see? 16 Now enter it. Whether
you behave patiently or
impatiently will make no
difference: you are only being
repaid for what you have done.

17 Truly, the God-fearing will
dwell [on that Day] in gardens
and in bliss, 18 rejoicing in
whatever their Lord has given
them. Their Lord has saved them
from the torment of the Fire,
19 'Eat and drink with good cheer
as a reward for your good deeds,'
20 reclining on couches arranged
in rows. And We shall wed them
to fair maidens with large
beautiful eyes.

21 To those who have attained
to faith We shall unite their
offspring who have also followed
them in faith, and We shall not
let any of their good deeds go
unrewarded; every human being
is a pledge for whatever he has
earned. 22 We shall provide them
in abundance with such fruit and
meat as they desire. 23 There,
they shall pass from hand to
hand a cup which does not lead
to any idle talk or sin. 24 They
will be waited upon by immortal
youths, like pearls hidden in
their shells. 25 They will converse
with one another, putting
questions to each other,

26 'Before this, when we were among our families, we were full of fear of God's displeasure—27 God has been gracious to us and has saved us from the torment of Hell's intense heat—28 before this, we used to pray to Him. Surely, He is the Beneficent, the Merciful.'

29 Therefore continue to give warning, for by the grace of your Lord, you are not a soothsayer or a madman. 30 If they say, 'He is but a poet; we are waiting for some misfortune to befall him,' 31 say [to them], 'Wait then: I too am waiting along with you!'—32 is it their minds that prompt them [to say] this, or are they merely insolent people? 33 Or do they say, 'He has invented it himself'? Indeed, they are not willing to believe. 34 Let them produce a scripture like it, if what they say is true.

35 Were they created out of nothing, or are they their own creators? 36 Did they create the heavens and the earth? No! They have no faith. 37 Do they own the treasures of your Lord, or have they been given charge of them? 38 Have they a ladder up to heaven by means of which they can overhear? Then let their listeners bring a clear proof. 39 Does God have daughters while you have sons?

40 Or do you ask them for a reward, so that they are over-burdened by debt? 41 Do they possess knowledge of the unseen, so that they can write it down? 42 Do they want to hatch some plot? Those who deny the truth will be the victims of the plot. 43 Or have they a god other than God? Exalted be God over what they ascribe as partners [to Him]!

44 If they should see a part of the heavens falling down, they would say, 'A mass of clouds,' 45 so leave them alone till they face the Day on which they will be struck dumb, 46 the Day when none of their scheming will be of the least avail to them, and they will receive no succour. 47 Truly, for those who do wrong there is a punishment besides that, though most of them do not know it.

48 So wait patiently for the
Judgement of your Lord—you
are certainly under Our watchful
eye. And glorify and celebrate
the praises of your Lord when
you rise up [from your sleep].
49 Extol His glory at night, and at
the setting of the stars.

53. THE SETTING STAR

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 By the setting star, 2 your
companion has neither strayed
nor is he misguided, 3 nor does
he speak out of his own desire.
4 It [the Quran] is nothing but
revelation sent down to him.
5 He was taught by [an angel]
who is mighty in power, 6 and
endowed with wisdom; who in
time manifested himself;
7 standing poised at the highest
point on the horizon, 8 then came
down close 9 until he was two
bow-lengths away or even closer
10 and revealed to God's servant
what he revealed. 11 The heart
[of the Prophet] did not
misconstrue what he saw. 12 Will
you then dispute with him as to
what he saw? 13 And certainly he
saw him descend a second time:
14 by the lote tree beyond which
none may pass 15 by the Garden
of [Eternal] Repose, 16 when the
lote tree was covered in mystic
splendour. 17 His sight did not
waver nor was it unduly bold.
18 He saw some of the greatest
signs of his Lord.

19 Have you really considered
al-Lat and al-'Uzza, 20 and the
third one, Manat? [a]—21 'What!
For you the males and for Him
the females?' 22 That indeed is
an unfair division—23 these are
nothing but names which you
yourselves have devised, you
and your forefathers. God has
sent down no authority for them.

---

[a] Al-Lat, al-'Uzza and Manat were the deities of ancient Arabia.

They follow nothing but conjecture and what their own selves desire, even though guidance has already come to them from their Lord! 24 Shall man have whatever he craves? 25 But it is to God that the Hereafter and this world belong.

26 There may be countless angels in heaven, but their intercession will be of no avail until God has given permission to those whom he chooses and accepts. 27 Those who do not believe in the life to come call the angels by female names. 28 They have no knowledge to base this on. They merely indulge in guess-work which can never replace the truth. 29 So ignore those who turn away from Our revelation and seek nothing but the life of this world. 30 That is the ultimate extent of their knowledge. Surely your Lord knows best those who stray from His path and He knows best those who follow His guidance.

31 Everything in the heavens and on the earth belongs to God and so He will requite those who do evil in accordance with their deeds and will reward those left with that which is best, for those who do good. 32 As for those who refrain from committing grave sins and indecent acts, though they may commit minor offences, your Lord is unstinting in His forgiveness. He knows you when He brings you out of the earth, and when you were embryos in the wombs of your mothers; so do not make claims to be pure. He knows best who is truly righteous.[a]

33 Have you [Prophet] considered the man who turned away, 34 who at first gave a little, then later held back? 35 Has he knowledge of the unseen, so that he sees? 36 Has he not been made acquainted with what was written

---

[a] Almighty God has given full guidance to man as to what he should do and what he should not. However, man may be pardoned in the case of lesser offences (*lamam*), i.e. indulging in some mischief because of fleeting emotion, on the condition that he should immediately realise his lapse and, being ashamed of it, seek pardon of his Lord.

in the scriptures of Moses? 37 And
with Abraham who kept his
word: 38 that no soul shall bear
the burden of another; 39 and that
man shall have only that for
which he strives; 40 and that [the
fruit of] his striving shall soon be
seen; 41 and in the end he will be
repaid for it in full; 42 that all things
in the end shall return to God;
43 that it is He who brings laughter
and tears; 44 that it is He who
causes death and gives life; 45 and
that He Himself created the two
sexes: male and female, 46 from
an ejected drop of sperm; 47 and
that He will bring about the
Second Creation; 48 that it is He
who gives wealth and
possessions; 49 that He is the
Lord of Sirius.

50 It was He who totally
destroyed the former 'Ad 51 and
Thamud tribes, 52 and before
them the people of Noah who
were even more unjust and
insolent; 53 and He overthrew
the subverted cities [of Sodom
and Gomorrah] 54 and then
covered them from sight forever.
55 On which then of your Lord's
signs do you cast doubt?

56 This is a warning just like
those of former times. 57 The
Hour that was to come draws
ever nearer. 58 None but God can
avert it. 59 Do you then find these
tidings strange? 60 Why do you
laugh rather than weep? 61 Will
you remain proudly heedless?
62 Prostrate yourselves before
God, and worship Him alone!

54. THE MOON

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 The Last Hour draws near and
the moon is split asunder. 2 Yet,
when they see a sign they [who
deny the truth] turn their backs
and say, 'The same old sorcery!'
3 They deny the truth and follow
their own whims—every matter
has its appointed time—4 there
has come to them many a tiding
wherein there are warnings,

5 profound in wisdom, but all
warnings have been of no avail:
6 so ignore them. On the Day
when the Crier will call out
about a horrible event, 7 with
downcast eyes they shall come
out of their graves, as if they
were locusts milling about
8 hastening towards the Crier.
Those who deny the truth will
cry, ‘This is such a hard day!’

9 The people of Noah denied
[the truth] before them. They
belied Our messenger saying,
‘He is mad!’ He was rebuffed,
10 so he cried out to his Lord,
saying, ‘I am overcome, so help
me!’ 11 So We opened the gates
of the sky with water pouring
down in torrents, 12 and We
caused the earth to burst with
gushing springs: so that the
waters met for a purpose which
had been decreed. 13 We bore
him on an [ark] which, made of
planks and nails, 14 floated on
under Our eyes: a vindication of
him who had been rejected. 15 We
have left this as a sign: but will
anyone take heed? 16 How
terrible then was My punishment
and My warning. 17 We have
made it easy to learn lessons
from the Quran. Is there anyone
who would receive admonition?

18 The people of ‘Ad too
rejected the truth. How terrible
was My punishment and My
warning. 19 We sent a raging
wind against them on a day of
continuous calamity. 20 It swept
people away as if they were
trunks of uprooted palm trees.
21 How [dreadful] was My
punishment and My warning!
22 We have made it easy to learn
lessons from the Quran: is there
anyone who would receive
admonition?

23 The tribe of Thamud also
rejected Our warnings: 24 they
said, ‘Are we to follow a man
from amongst ourselves? We
would surely then fall into error
and madness. 25 Has the [Divine]
message been revealed to him
alone of all of us? No, he is a
boastful liar.’ 26 [We said to him]
‘Tomorrow they shall know who
is the boastful liar, 27 for We are
[going to] send the she-camel as
a trial for them, so watch them

and be patient. 28 And tell them that the water [of the well] is to be divided between them, and that each one should drink in turn.’ 29 But they called their companion who took a sword and hamstrung her. 30 How [terrible] were My punishment and My warnings! 31 Then We sent a single blast against them and they became like dry stubble which has been trampled upon. 32 Indeed, We have made the Quran easy to learn lessons from. Is there anyone who would receive admonition?

33 The people of Lot rejected Our warnings. 34 We sent a sandstorm against them which destroyed them all, except the family of Lot, whom We saved at the break of dawn, 35 as a blessing from Us: this is how We reward the thankful. 36 Lot warned them of Our punishment, but they disputed the warnings—37 they even wanted to seduce his guests—but We blinded them, and said, ‘Taste My punishment now that you have scorned My warnings!’—38 and early in the morning the punishment decreed overtook them—39 ‘Taste My punishment now that you have scorned My warnings!’ 40 We have made it easy indeed to learn lessons from the Quran. Is there anyone who would receive admonition?

41 Surely warners came to the people of Pharaoh. 42 They, too, rejected all Our signs. So We seized them with the seizure of One Mighty, Omnipotent.

43 Are your people who deny the truth better than those? Or have you been given immunity in the Scriptures? 44 Or do they say, ‘We are a united group, and we are bound to prevail’? 45 The hosts shall soon be routed and they shall be put to flight. 46 Indeed, the Hour of Doom is their appointed time, and the Last Hour will be the most severe, and the most bitter. 47 The evil-doers are indeed sunk in error and folly—48 on the Day when they are dragged into the fire on their faces, it will be said to them, ‘Now feel the touch of Hell!’

49 We have created everything in due measure; 50 We command but once: Our will is done in the twinkling of an eye; 51 We have indeed destroyed many a people like you. Is there anyone who would receive admonition? 52 All their deeds are recorded in their books: 53 every action, small or great, is noted down. 54 The God-conscious will find themselves in gardens and rivers, 55 in the seat of truth with an all-powerful sovereign.

55. THE MERCIFUL

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 The Merciful 2 who taught the Quran—3 He created man 4 and He taught him speech. 5 The sun and the moon move according to a fixed reckoning; 6 the stars and the trees bend in prostration. 7 He raised the heavens and set up the measure, 8 so that you should not transgress the measure. 9 Always measure with justice and do not give short measure.

10 He has laid out the earth for His creatures. 11 On it are fruits and palm-trees with sheathed clusters [of dates], 12 and grains with their husk and fragrant plants. 13 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny? 14 He has created man, from dry ringing clay, like the potter's, 15 and He created the jinns from a flame of fire. 16 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny? 17 He is the Lord of the two easts and the Lord of the two wests. 18 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny? 19 He has set the two oceans in motion, converging together. 20 Between them is a barrier, which they do not overrun. 21 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny? 22 Pearls and corals come forth from both of them. 23 Which, of your Lord's wonders would you

deny? 24 His are the lofty ships, that rear aloft on the sea like mountains. 25 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny?

26 All that is on the earth is doomed to perish, 27 while your Lord's own Self will remain full of majesty and glory. 28 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny? 29 Everyone in the heavens and on the earth entreats Him. Every day He manifests Himself in a new state. 30 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny?

31 Soon We shall attend to you—two big groups [of jinn and mankind]. 32 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny? 33 O company of jinn and men! If you have the power to go beyond the realms of the heavens and the earth, pass beyond them: you cannot pass out but with [Our] authority. 34 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny? 35 Flames of fire and molten brass shall be sent against both of you, and you will not be able to defend yourselves.[a] 36 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny?

37 When the sky is rent asunder, and becomes red like red leather, 38 which of your Lord's wonders would you deny? 39 For, on that Day, neither man nor jinn will be questioned about his sins. 40 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny? 41 The guilty shall be recognized by their marks so they shall be seized by their forelocks and their feet. 42 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny? 43 This is the Hell which the guilty called a lie. 44 They will go round between its flames and boiling water. 45 Which of your Lord's wonders would you deny?

---

[a] The present world is a place of trial. So long as the period of testing lasts, everybody has the opportunity to be as arrogant as he pleases. But, in spite of this complete freedom, no jinn or human being has the power to go beyond the limits of the universe. This fact itself is enough to prove that man is completely in the grip of God. On the expiry of the test period, when He starts seizing hold of people, it will not be possible for anybody to save himself.

46 There are two gardens for one who fears standing before his Lord. 47 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 48 [There will be two gardens with] spreading branches. 49 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 50 In both of them, there are two springs flowing. 51 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 52 In both of them, there will be two kinds of every fruit. 53 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 54 They will recline upon carpets lined with rich brocade; and the fruits of both these gardens will be within easy reach. 55 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 56 Therein are maidens of modest gaze, whom neither a man nor a jinn had ever touched before them. 57 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 58 [There will be] maidens as fair as corals and rubies. 59 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 60 The reward of goodness shall be nothing but goodness. 61 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny?

62 Besides those two there shall be two other gardens. 63 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 64 Both [gardens] of the darkest green. 65 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 66 In both of them live springs gush forth. 67 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 68 In both of them there will be fruit trees and date-palms and pomegranates. 69 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 70 Therein will be maidens chaste and beautiful. 71 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 72 [There the blessed will live with their] pure companions sheltered in pavilions. 73 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 74 Whom neither a man or jinn had ever touched before them. 75 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 76 [They will live in such a paradise] reclining upon green cushions and the finest carpets. 77 Which of your Lord’s wonders would you deny? 78 Blessed be your Lord’s name, full of glory and majesty!

56. THE INEVITABLE EVENT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] When the inevitable event takes
place, [2] and there can be no
denying its happening, [3] some
shall be abased and others
exalted. [4] When the earth is
shaken violently, [5] and the
mountains are totally shattered
and crumble to pieces [6] and
become like scattered dust
particles, [7] [on that Day] you shall
be divided into three groups.[a]

[8] Those on the Right—how
blessed are those on the Right!
[9] Those on the Left—how
unlucky are those on the Left!
[10] The third to the fore shall be
the foremost. [11] They shall be the
nearest to God. [12] They will dwell
in the Gardens of Bliss: [13] a large
group of the early believers,
[14] and a lesser number from the
later generations. [15] Seated on
couches wrought in gold and
encrusted with precious stones,
[16] reclining on them facing each
other; [17] they will be waited on
by ageless youths [18] carrying
goblets and ewers and cups filled
with the purest wine, [19] neither
causing headaches, nor
intoxication; [20] along with fruits
of their choice; [21] and the meat
of any bird that they may desire;
[22] and fair maidens with large,
lustrous eyes [23] like the pearls in
their shells: [24] shall be their
recompense for their deeds.
[25] They will not hear therein any

---

[a] In the present world, man observes that he is free to do whatever he likes. So the question of retribution in the Hereafter makes no impact on his mind. But the formation of the 'other world' is just as possible as the formation of the present world. When that time comes, the whole system will be reversed. Those people who were higher in position will go down and those who were lower in position will be seen up above. At that time human beings will be divided into three groups, forward group (*al-sabiqun*), people of the Right (*ashab al-yamin*) and people of the Left (*ashab al-shimal*).

vain or sinful talk, 26 only the words of peace and tranquillity.

27 Those on the Right, how fortunate are those on the Right! 28 They shall recline on high amidst lote trees without thorns 29 and clustered bananas, 30 and spreading shade 31 and flowing water, 32 and fruits in abundance, 33 never-ending and unrestricted, 34 on raised couches. 35 We have created maidens perfectly 36 and made them virgins, 37 loving companions, matching in age, 38 for those on the Right, 39 a large group of the earlier people 40 and a large group of those of later times.

41 Those on the Left: how unfortunate are those on the Left! 42 They will find themselves in scorching wind and scalding water, 43 and under the shadow of black smoke, 44 neither cool nor refreshing. 45 They had been affluent before, 46 and they persisted obstinately in awful sin, 47 and they used to say, ‘What! After we have died and become dust and bones, shall we indeed be raised up again? 48 And also our forefathers?’ 49 Say, ‘Indeed, the earlier ones and the later ones 50 will indeed be gathered together at a fixed time on an appointed Day. 51 Then you, you misguided ones, who deny the truth, 52 shall eat the fruit of the tree of Zaqqum, 53 and fill your bellies with it, 54 and shall drink boiling water on top of that. 55 You shall drink it as the thirsty camels drink.’ 56 This shall be their entertainment on the Day of Judgement.

57 We have created you: why then do you not accept the truth? 58 Have you thought about [the semen] that you discharge— 59 did you create it or did We? 60 It is We who have ordained death for all of you; and We cannot be prevented 61 from replacing you by others like yourselves or changing your forms and re-creating you in forms that you know nothing of. 62 You have certainly known the first creation. Why, then, do you not take heed? 63 Have you thought about what crops you

plant? [64] Is it you who cause
them to grow or do We? [65] If We
so pleased, We could turn your
harvest into chaff. Then you
would start lamenting, [66] ‘We
are ruined, [67] nay, we are deprived
[altogether].’ [68] Have you
considered the water that you
drink? [69] Is it you who cause it to
descend from the clouds, or do
We? [70] If We so pleased, We
certainly could make it salty.
Why, then, are you not grateful?
[71] Have you thought about the
fire that you kindle. [72] Did you
produce the tree that serves as
fuel or do We? [73] We have made
it to be a reminder and a benefit
for the wayfarers. [74] So glorify
the name of your Lord, the
Supreme.

[75] Nay, I swear by the setting
of the stars—[76] and, indeed, that
is a most mighty oath, if you
only knew—[77] that this is indeed
a noble Quran, [78] in a well-
guarded preserved Book,
[79] which none can touch except
the purified. [80] It is a revelation
sent down from the Lord of the
worlds. [81] How can you regard
this discourse with disdain? [82] Do
you make its denial your means
of livelihood?

[83] Why, then, when the soul of
the dying man reaches the throat,
[84] and you are [at that moment]
looking on [helplessly]—[85] and
We are nearer to him than you,
although you cannot see Us—
[86] why, then, if you are not subject
to Our command, [87] do you not
cause the soul to return to him if
you are truthful in your claim?
[88] But if he [the dying person] is
one of those brought near to
God, [89] then for him there shall
be comfort and plenty and a
Garden of Bliss; [90] and if he is of
those who are on the Right, [91] he
will be greeted with, ‘Peace be
to you,’ by those on the Right.
[92] But if he is one of those who
rejected [the truth] and went
astray, [93] he will be welcomed
with boiling water. [94] He will
burn in Hell. [95] This is indeed the
indubitable truth. [96] So glorify
the name of your Lord, the
Supreme.

57. IRON

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Everything in the heavens and
earth glorifies God—He is the
Mighty, the Wise One. 2 He has
sovereign control over the
heavens and the earth. He gives
life and brings death. He has
power over all things. 3 He is the
First and the Last, the Outward
and the Inward. He has knowledge
of all things. 4 It was He who
created the heavens and earth in six
Days [periods] and then ascended
the throne. He knows what enters
the earth and what comes out of
it; what descends from the sky
and what ascends to it. He is
with you wherever you are; He
sees all that you do; 5 He has
sovereignty over the heavens and
the earth. All affairs will return
to God. 6 He causes the night to
pass into the day and the day to
pass into the night. And He knows
all that is in the hearts of men.

7 Have faith in God and His
Messenger and spend in charity
from that of which He has made
you trustees: those of you who
believe and give alms shall be
richly rewarded. 8 What could be
your reason for not believing in
God, when the Messenger calls
on you to have faith in your Lord
and He has already made a
covenant with you, if indeed you
are true believers? 9 It is He who
sends down to His Servant clear
revelations, so that He may lead
you out of darkness into light.
God is indeed compassionate
and merciful to you. 10 Why
should you not spend for the
cause of God, when God alone
holds the heritage of the heavens
and the earth? Those of you who
spent and fought before the
victory will be higher in rank
than those who spent and fought
afterwards.[a] Yet God has
promised you all a good reward.
He is aware of all that you do.

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

11 Who will offer God a
generous loan? He will double it
for him and give him a rich
reward. 12 On the Day, you
[Prophet] shall see the faithful,
both men and women, with their
light streaming out before them
and on their right hands, [and
you shall hear a voice saying to
them:] 'Glad tidings for you
today! You shall enter gardens
with rivers flowing through them
wherein you shall forever dwell.
That is the supreme triumph.'
13 On that Day, the hypocrites,
both men and women, will say to
the faithful, 'Wait a while for us,
so that we may have some of
your light.' They will be told,
'Turn back and look for a light
elsewhere.' A wall will then be
raised between them. It will have
a gate on the inside of which will
be grace and mercy and on the
outside of which will be
punishment. 14 The hypocrites
will call out to the faithful: 'Were
we not on your side?' They will
reply, 'Yes, but you gave in to
temptation, you wavered and
doubted and were deceived by
your wishful thinking until God's
will was done; then the Deceiver
[Satan] misled you about God.'
15 So this Day no ransom can be
taken from you nor from those
who were bent on denying the
truth. Your home is the fire; that
is your companion, and a hapless
journey's end.

16 Has the time not come for
the faithful when their hearts in
all humility should engage in the
remembrance of God and of the
revelation of truth, so that they
should not become like those
who were given the Book before
them, whose hearts with the
passage of time became hardened
and many of whom were
disobedient? 17 Remember that
God brings the earth back to life
after its death. We have made
Our signs clear to you, so that
you may fully understand.

18 Alms-givers, both men and
women, who give a generous
loan to God, shall have it
multiplied and shall have an
honourable reward. 19 Those who
believe in God and His
messengers are the truthful ones

and the witnesses in the sight of their Lord. They shall have their reward and their light. But those who are bent on denying the truth and reject Our signs shall be destined for Hell.

[20] Never forget that the life of this world is only a game and a passing delight, a show, and mutual boasting and trying to outrival each other in riches and children. It is like the growth of vegetation after the rain, which delights the planter, but which then withers away, turns yellow and becomes worthless stubble. In the life to come there will be a terrible punishment, or God's forgiveness and approval: the life of this world is nothing but means of deception. [21] Vie with one another for your Lord's forgiveness and for a Paradise as vast as heaven and earth, which has been made ready for those who believe in God and His messengers. Such is God's grace. He bestows it upon whoever He pleases. There is no limit to God's bounty.

[22] No misfortune can affect the earth or your own selves without its first having been recorded in a book, before We bring it into being. That is easy for God to do; [23] so that you may not grieve for what has escaped you, nor be exultant over what you have gained. God loves neither the conceited nor the boastful, [24] nor those who, being miserly themselves, urge others to be miserly. He who turns his back should remember that God alone is self-sufficient and worthy of all praise.

[25] We sent Our messengers with evidence and, with them, We sent down the Book and the Scales of Justice, so that men might act in all fairness. We sent down iron with its great inherent strength and its many benefits for mankind, so that God might know who would stand up for God, though unseen, and His messengers. God is powerful, and almighty.

[26] We sent forth Noah and Abraham and bestowed upon their offspring prophethood and the Book. Some of them were

rightly guided, but many others were transgressors. 27 Then, in their wake, We followed them up with [others of] Our messengers and after them Jesus, son of Mary. We gave him the Gospel and imbued the hearts of those who followed him with compassion and mercy. But We did not prescribe monasticism for them: that was their own innovation by which they sought to please God. But then, they did not observe it in the way that it should have been observed. So We rewarded only those who were truly faithful, for many of them were disobedient.

28 Believers, fear God and believe in His messenger. He will show you mercy in double measure and will provide a light for you to walk in. God will grant you forgiveness. He is forgiving and merciful. 29 The People of the Book should know that they have no power whatsoever over God's grace. His grace is entirely in His hand and He bestows it upon whoever He wills. God is truly infinite in His bounty.

58. THE PLEADING

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 God has indeed heard the words of the woman who pleads with you about her husband and lays her complaint before God: God hears what the two of you have to say. God is all hearing, all seeing.

2 Those who separate themselves from their wives by pronouncing, 'To me you are like my mother's back,' must concede that they are not their mothers; none are their mothers except those who gave birth to them—surely they utter an evil word and a lie. God is pardoning, forgiving. 3 Those who put away their wives by equating them

with their mothers, and then wish to go back on what they have said, must set free a slave before the couple may touch one another again. This is what you are exhorted to do. God is fully aware of what you do, [4] and anyone who does not have the means must fast for two consecutive months before they touch each other, and who is not able to do that must feed sixty needy people. That is to affirm your faith in God and His messenger. These are the limits set by God. Those who deny the truth shall have a painful punishment.

[5] Those who oppose God and His Messenger will be humiliated, as were their predecessors. We have sent down clear revelations. A humiliating punishment awaits those who deny the truth. [6] On the day God raises them all up from the dead, He will make them understand what they have done. God has taken everything into account, even though they have forgotten, for God is a witness to all things.

[7] Do you not see that God knows all that is in the heavens and on the earth? There is not a secret consultation between three, but He makes the fourth among them—nor between five but He makes the sixth—nor between fewer nor more, but He is in their midst, wherever they may be: in the end He will tell them the truth about their conduct, on the Day of Judgement. For God has full knowledge of all things. [8] Have you not seen how those who were forbidden to hold secret counsels yet revert to that which they were forbidden to do? And they conspire to indulge in wrongdoing, aggressive behaviour and disobedience to the Messenger. When they come to you, they greet you, but not in the words God would use, and inwardly they wonder, 'Why does God not punish us for what we say?' Hell will be a fitting punishment for them: they will burn in its flames—a wretched fate!

[9] Believers, when you confer together in private, do not confer in support of sin and

transgression and disobedience
to the Messenger, but confer for
the promotion of virtue and
righteousness. Fear God, before
whom you shall all be gathered.
10 Conspiracy for evil purposes is
the work of Satan, by which he
means to bring grief to believers.
But he cannot harm them in the
least, unless it be by God's leave. Let
the believers put their trust in God.
11 Believers, if you are told to
make room for one another in
your assemblies, then do so, and
God will make room for you,
and if you are told to rise up, do
so: God will raise in rank those
of you who believe and those
who have been given knowledge:
He is fully aware of all that
you do.
12 Believers, when you come
to consult the Messenger
privately, give something in
charity beforehand. That is best
for you and most conducive to
purity. But if you cannot find
anything to give, know that God
is Forgiving and Merciful. 13 Do
you fear that you will not [be
able to] give in charity before
your consultation? Then if you
are unable to do so, [know that]
God has turned to you in His
mercy; then observe your prayers
and pay the prescribed alms and
obey God and His Messenger.
God is aware of all that you do.
14 Do you not see those who
have befriended a people who
have brought down upon
themselves the wrath of God?
They are neither with you nor
with them and they wittingly
swear to falsehood. 15 God has
prepared a severe punishment
for them; surely what they have
done is evil. 16 They have used
their oaths to cover up their
misdeeds and have thus turned
others away from the path of
God. A humiliating punishment
awaits them.
17 Neither their wealth nor their
children will be of the least avail
[in protecting them] against
God—they are the inheritors of
Hell, and there they shall remain
forever. 18 On the day God raises
them all up from the dead, they
will swear to Him just as they
have sworn to you, thinking that

they are on firm ground. But
surely they are liars. 19 Satan has
got the better of them and has
caused them to forget the
remembrance of God. They have
gone over to the side of the
devil, and it is as the devil's
partisans that they shall be the
losers: 20 those who oppose God
and His Messenger will [on
Judgement Day] be among the
most abased. 21 God has decreed,
'I and My messengers shall most
certainly prevail.' Truly God is
Powerful and Almighty.

22 You will find no believers in
God and the Last Day consorting
with those who oppose God and
His Messenger, even though
they be their fathers, their sons,
their brothers or their close
relatives. He has engraved faith
on their very hearts and has
strengthened them with a spirit
of His own. He will usher them
into Gardens through which
rivers flow where they shall dwell
forever. God is well-pleased with
them and they are well pleased
with Him. They are God's party.
God's party shall surely enter
into a state of bliss.

59. BANISHMENT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Everything in the heavens and
on the earth glorifies God. He is
the Almighty, the All Wise. 2 It
was He who turned those People
of the Book who denied the truth
out of their homes in the first
banishment. You never thought
they would go, and they thought
their strongholds would protect
them against God. But God came
upon them from where they least
expected and cast such terror
into their hearts that their houses
were pulled down by their own
hands as well as by the hands of
the believers. Learn a lesson,
then, you who are endowed with
insight.

3 If God had not prescribed exile for them, He would surely have punished them in this world. But they shall have the torment of Fire in the Hereafter, 4 because they set themselves against God and His Messenger: God is stern in His punishment of anyone who sets himself against Him. 5 Whatever palm trees you cut down or left standing on their roots, it was by God's leave, so that He might disgrace the transgressors.

6 Whatever God has given to His Messenger as spoils from them is by His grace; you spurred neither horse nor camel for them, but God gives power to His messengers over anyone He wills. God has power over all things—7 whatever gains God has assigned to His Messenger from the inhabitants of the town is for God and for the Messenger and for his kinsfolk and for orphans and the needy and the wayfarer, so that they may not become the property of those of you who are rich. Whatever the Messenger gives you, take it; and whatever he forbids you, abstain from it. Fear God; surely, God is severe in retribution. 8 It is for the poor refugees who were driven from their homes and possessions, desiring the favour and the pleasure of God and supporting God and His Messenger. Such people are the truthful.

9 Those who were already settled in the city [Madinah] and firmly rooted in faith, love those who migrated to them for refuge, and harbour no desire in their hearts for what has been given to the [latter]. They give them preference over themselves, even if they too are needy: those who are saved from their own souls' greed are truly successful. 10 Those who came [into the faith] after them say, 'Our Lord, forgive us and our brothers who preceded us in the faith and leave no malice in our hearts towards those who believe. Lord, You are indeed compassionate and merciful.'

11 Have you not seen those who act hypocritically? They say

to their disbelieving companions from among the People of the Book, ‘If you are driven out we shall surely go out with you, and we shall never listen to anyone against you, and if war is waged against you, we shall help you.’ God bears witness that they are indeed liars. 12 If they are driven out, they will not go with them, nor, if they are attacked, will they help them. Indeed, if they go to their help, they will turn their backs in flight, and then they will not be helped.

13 They are more in dread of you than of God, because they are people devoid of understanding. 14 They will never fight against you in a body except from within fortified strongholds or from behind walls. There is much hostility between them. You think they are united, but their hearts are divided, because they are a people devoid of reason.

15 Like those who went just before them, they have tasted the evil consequences of their doings. And they shall have a painful punishment. 16 They are like Satan, who says to man, ‘Deny the truth!’ but when man denied the truth, said, ‘I disown you; I fear God, the Lord of the Universe.’ 17 Thus, in the end, both will find themselves in the Fire, therein to abide: that is the reward of evil-doers.

18 Believers! Fear God, and let every soul look to what it lays up for the future. Fear God: God is aware of what you do. 19 Do not be like those who forgot God, so that He caused them to forget their own souls [their own true interests]. It is they who are the rebellious ones. 20 The people of the Fire and the people of Paradise are not equal. The people of Paradise are the victorious ones.

21 Had We sent down this Quran on a mountain, you would certainly have seen it falling down and splitting asunder, because of the fear of God. We set forth these parables to men so that they may reflect. 22 He is God: there is no deity save Him. He knows the unseen and the

visible. He is the Compassionate, the Merciful. 23 He is God, there is no deity save Him, the Sovereign, the Most Pure, the Source of Peace, the Granter of Security, the Protector, the Mighty, the Subduer, the Supreme, Glory be to God, who is far above what they associate with Him. 24 He is God—the Creator, the Originator, the Giver of Form. His are the most excellent names. Everything in the heavens and earth declares His glory. He is the Mighty, the Wise One.

60. SHE WHO IS TESTED

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Believers! Do not offer friendship to those who are enemies of Mine and of yours. Would you show them affection when they have rejected the truth you have received; when they have driven you and the Messenger out [simply] because you believe in God, your Lord. If you have left your homes to strive for My cause and out of a desire to seek My goodwill, how can you secretly offer them friendship? I know all that you conceal and all that you reveal. Whoever of you does this will surely stray from the right path. 2 If they gain ascendancy over you, they will behave towards you as enemies and stretch out their hands as well as their tongues with evil intent; they long for you to renounce your faith. 3 Neither your relatives nor your children will be of any help to you on the Day of Resurrection. He will judge between you, and God sees all that you do.

4 Indeed you have an excellent example in Abraham and those who followed him, when they said to their people, ‘We disown you and whatever you worship besides God. We renounce you.

Enmity and hatred shall endure
between us and you, until you
believe in the one God.' [The
exception was] when Abraham
said to his father, 'I shall indeed
pray for [God's] forgiveness for
you; although I do not have it in
my power to obtain anything
from God on your behalf.' They
prayed, 'O our Lord, in You we
have placed our trust and to You
we turn in repentance and to You
is the final return. 5 Our Lord, do
not make us a prey for those who
deny the truth, and forgive us
our Lord. For You alone are the
Mighty, the Wise One.' 6 Surely,
there is a good example in them
for you; for those who place
their hopes in God and the Last
Day. Whoever turns away will
surely learn that God is self-
sufficient and worthy of all
praise. 7 It may well be that God
will create goodwill between you
and those of them with whom
you are now at enmity—for God
is all powerful, most forgiving
and merciful.

8 He does not forbid you to
deal kindly and justly with
anyone who has not fought you
on account of your faith or driven
you out of your homes: God
loves the just. 9 God only forbids
you to make friends with those
who have fought against you
on account of your faith
and driven you out of your
homes or helped others to do
so. Any of you who turn
towards them in friendship will
truly be transgressors.

10 Believers! When believing
women come to you as refugees,
submit them to a test. Their faith
is best known to God. Then if
you find them to be true believers,
do not send them back to those
who deny the truth. These
[women] are not lawful for them,
nor are those who deny the truth
lawful for these women. But
hand back to those who deny the
truth the dowers they gave them;
nor is it an offence for you to
marry such women, provided
you give them their dowers. Do
not maintain your marriages with
those women who deny the truth:
demand repayment of the dowers
you have given them and let the

disbelievers ask for the return of what they have spent. Such is God's judgement; He judges with justice between you. God is all knowing and all wise. [11] If any of your wives desert you to go over to the disbelievers, and you subsequently have your turn, [by the coming over of a woman from the other side] give to those who have been deserted by their wives the equivalent of the dowers they gave them. Fear God in whom you believe.

[12] O Prophet! When believing women come to you and pledge themselves not to associate in worship any other thing with God, not to steal or commit adultery or kill their children or indulge in slander, intentionally inventing falsehoods, and not to disobey you in that which is right, then accept their pledge of allegiance and pray to God to forgive them their sins, for God is forgiving and merciful.

[13] Believers! Do not make friends with those who have incurred the wrath of God. Such men are indeed bereft of all hope of a life to come, just as those who deny the truth lying in their graves are bereft of all hopes.

61. RANKS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] Everything in the heavens and earth glorifies God—He is the Almighty, the Wise. [2] Believers! Why do you say one thing and do another. [3] It is most hateful to God that you do not practise what you preach; [4] surely, God loves those who fight for His cause in ranks, as if they were a solid cemented structure.[a]

[5] Remember when Moses said

---

[a] See pages xiv to xvii of the Introduction.

to his people, 'O my people, why
do you cause me grief when you
know that I am God's Messenger
to you?' When they wavered,
God let their hearts waver too.
God does not guide transgressors.
6 Remember when Jesus, son
of Mary, said, 'O Children of
Israel, I am sent to you by God,
confirming the Torah that came
before me and bringing good
news of a messenger to follow
me, whose name will be Ahmad.'
Yet when he came to them with
clear signs, they said, 'This is
merely sorcery.' 7 Who could be
more wicked than one who
invents lies about God when
called to submit to Him? God
does not guide the wrongdoers:
8 they wish to put His light out
with their mouths. But He will
perfect His light, much as those
who deny the truth may dislike
it; 9 it is He who has sent His
Messenger with guidance and
the true religion, so that He may
cause it to prevail over all
religions, however much the
polytheists may dislike it.
10 Believers! Shall I guide you
to a profitable course that will
save you from a painful
punishment? 11 You should
believe in God and His
Messenger, and strive for God's
cause with your possessions and
your lives. That will be better for
you, if you only knew—12 and
He will forgive you your sins
and admit you into Gardens with
rivers flowing under them. He
will lodge you in fine dwellings
in the Gardens of Eternity; that
is indeed the supreme
achievement. 13 He will give you
another blessing which you
desire: help from God and
imminent victory. Give good
tidings [O Muhammad] to
believers!
14 Believers, be God's helpers,
as Jesus, son of Mary, said to the
disciples, 'Who will be my
helpers in the cause of God?'
The disciples said, 'We shall be
God's helpers.' Some of the
Children of Israel believed in
him and some denied the truth;
We supported the believers
against their enemies and they
triumphed over them.

62. THE DAY OF CONGREGATION

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Whatever is in the heavens and
on the earth glorifies God, the
Sovereign Lord, the Holy One,
the Mighty, the Wise. 2 It is He
who has raised among the
unlettered people a messenger
from among themselves who
recites His revelations to them,
and purifies them, and teaches
them the Book and wisdom, for
they had formerly been clearly
misguided—3 and to others also,
from among them, who have not
yet joined them. He is the Mighty,
the Wise One. 4 That is God's
grace; He bestows it on whom
He pleases; for God is limitless
in His grace.

5 Those who were charged with
bearing the Torah, but did not do
so are like an ass carrying a load
of books. How unfortunate are
those who belie the sign of God.
God does not guide the
wrongdoers. 6 Say, 'You who are
Jews, if you claim that you are
favoured by God out of all
people, then long for death, if
you are truthful.' 7 They will
never wish for it, because of
what their hands have sent
forward. God has full knowledge
of evil-doers. 8 So say, 'The
death you run away from will
certainly meet you, and thereafter
you will be brought back to the
Knower of the unseen and the
seen, and He will declare to you
what you have done.'

9 Believers! When the call to
prayer is made on the day of
congregation, hasten to the
remembrance of God, and leave
all worldly commerce: this is for
your own good, if you but knew
it. 10 When the prayer is ended,
disperse in the land and seek to
obtain [something] of God's
bounty; and remember God
much, so that you may prosper.
11 Yet when they see some
merchandise or entertainment,
they break away to go to it and
leave you standing. Say, 'That

which God has in store is far better than any merchandise or entertainment.' God is the most munificent Giver.

63. THE HYPOCRITES

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] When the hypocrites come to you, they say, 'We bear witness that you are indeed the Messenger of God.' God knows that you are indeed His Messenger, but God bears witness that the hypocrites are surely liars—[2] they use their oaths as a cover and thus they bar others from God's way: what they have been doing is truly evil—[3] that is because they believed and then rejected their faith: their hearts are sealed up, so that they are devoid of understanding.

[4] When you see them, their outward appearance pleases you; when they speak, you listen to what they say. But they are like propped up blocks of timber. They think that every shout is directed against them. They are the [real] enemies, so beware of them. The curse of God be upon them! How they turn away! [5] When they are told, 'Come! The Messenger of God will ask forgiveness for you!' they turn their heads away and you see them walking away arrogantly. [6] It makes no difference whether you ask forgiveness for them or not. God will not forgive them: God does not guide such rebellious people.

[7] They are the ones who say, 'Give nothing to those who follow God's Messenger, until they abandon him;' but the treasures of the heavens and the earth belong to God, though the hypocrites do not understand this [8] [and] they say, 'Indeed, when we return to Madinah, [we] the ones most worthy of honour, will surely drive out from there

the contemptible ones!'
[referring to poor Muslims].
However, all honour belongs to
God, and to His Messenger and
those who believe [in God]: but
of this the hypocrites are
not aware.
[9] O believers! Do not let your
wealth or your children distract
you from remembrance of God.
Those who do so will be the
losers. [10] And spend out of
what We have provided you
with before death comes to
one of you and he says,
'My Lord! If only You
would grant me respite for a
little while, then I would give
alms and be among the
righteous.' [11] But God will not
grant a reprieve to a soul
when its appointed time has
come; God is well-aware of what
you do.

64. LOSS AND GAIN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] All that is in the heavens and
on the earth extols the glory of
God. To Him belongs the
Kingdom and to Him all praise is
due. He has power over all things.
[2] It was He who created you; and
some of you are those who deny
this truth, and some who believe
[in it]. God sees everything you
do. [3] He created the heavens and
the earth for a purpose. He
formed you and gave you the
best of forms. To Him you shall
all return. [4] He knows whatever
is in the heavens and the earth.
He knows all that you conceal
and all that you reveal. God is
aware of what is in your hearts.
[5] Have you not heard about
those who denied the truth before
you and tasted the evil
consequences of their conduct?
They will have a painful
punishment. [6] That was because
their messengers came to them
with clear signs, but they replied,

'Shall mortals be our guides?' And so they rejected the truth and turned away. God has no need of such people; God is self-sufficient and worthy of all praise.

[7] Those who deny the truth claim that they will never be raised up again. Say, 'By my Lord, most surely you will be raised up again and then you will be told of all that you have done; and that is easy enough for God.' [8] Believe then in God and His Messenger, and in the light which We have sent down. God is fully aware of all that you do. [9] When He shall gather you all for the Day of Gathering, that will be the Day of loss and gain; and whoever believes in God and does good deeds shall be forgiven their sins and admitted to Gardens through which rivers flow, where they shall dwell forever. That is the supreme triumph. [10] But those who denied the truth and rejected Our signs shall be the inmates of the Fire, there to remain—what an evil destination!

[11] No affliction can befall man but by God's permission—He guides the hearts of those who believe in Him: God has knowledge of all things—[12] obey God and obey the Messenger; but if you turn away, remember that Our Messenger is only responsible for clearly conveying the message. [13] God! There is no god but He, so let the faithful put their trust in Him.

[14] Believers! [Even] among your wives and your children you have enemies: so beware of them. But if you overlook their offences and forgive and pardon them, then surely, God is most forgiving and merciful. [15] Your wealth and your children are only a trial; God's reward is great: [16] so be mindful of God as best as you can; and listen, and obey; and spend in charity: it is for your own good. Those who guard themselves against their own greed will surely prosper: [17] if you give a good loan to God, He will multiply it for you and forgive you, for God is appreciative and

forbearing; [18] God is the
Knower of the unseen and the
seen: He is the Almighty, the
Wise One.

65. DIVORCE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] O Prophet! When any of you
divorce your wives, divorce them
during their period of purity and
calculate the period carefully: be
mindful of God, your Lord. Do
not drive them out of their
homes—nor should they
themselves leave—unless they
become openly guilty of immoral
conduct. These are the bounds
set by God. He who transgresses
God's bounds wrongs his own
soul. You never know, after that,
God may well bring about some
new situation. [2] And when their
waiting term is ended, either
keep them honourably or part
with them in honour. Call to
witness two reliable men from
among you and bear true
witness for God. This is an
admonishment for those who
believe in God and the Last Day.
To one who fears God, He will
grant a way out [of his
difficulties], [3] and God will
provide for him from an
unexpected source; God suffices
for anyone who puts his trust in
Him. God will surely bring about
what He decrees. He has set a
measure for all things.

[4] In the case of those of your
wives who have passed the age
of menstruation, if you have any
doubt, know that their waiting
period is three months; and that
will apply likewise to those who
have not yet menstruated; the
waiting period of those who are
pregnant will be until they deliver
their burden [give birth]. God
makes things easy for those who
are mindful of Him. [5] Such is the
commandment which God has
revealed to you. He who fears

God shall be forgiven his sins and richly rewarded.

6 Let the women [who are undergoing a waiting period] live in the same manner as you live yourselves, in accordance with your means; and do not harass them in order to make their lives difficult. If they are pregnant, maintain them until they give birth; if they suckle your infants, pay them for it; discuss things among yourselves in all decency—if you cannot bear with each other, let another woman suckle for you—7 let the man of means spend in accordance with his means; and let him whose resources are restricted, spend in accordance with what God has given him. God does not burden any person with more than He has given him. God will soon bring about ease after hardship.

8 How many a town rebelled against the commands of its Lord and His messengers and We called them sternly to account and punished them severely, 9 so they tasted the evil consequences of their conduct and the result of their conduct was ruin. 10 God has prepared a severe punishment for them. So, fear God, O men of understanding, who have believed. God has sent down to you a Reminder 11 and a messenger who conveys to you God's clear messages, so that he might lead those, who believe and do good deeds, out of darkness into light. God will admit those who believe in Him and do good deeds into Gardens with rivers flowing through them, where they will remain forever. God has indeed made excellent provision for them.

12 It is God who created the seven heavens and the same number of earths. His commandment descends among them, so that you may know that God has power over all things; and that He encompasses all things with His knowledge.

66. PROHIBITION

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] Prophet, why in your desire to
please your wives, do you impose
a ban on what God has made
lawful to you? God is forgiving
and merciful. [2] God has already
ordained that you be absolved of
such oaths. God is your patron.
He is the All Knowing, the Wise
One.

[3] The Prophet once told one of
his wives something in
confidence. She did not keep it
secret and God informed him of
this; he made known a part of it,
and avoided [mentioning] part
of it. When he spoke to his wife
of this, she asked him who had
told him about it. He replied,
'The All Knowing, the All Aware
One.' [4] If only both of you would
turn to God in repentance—and
your hearts are already so
inclined. But if you uphold each
other against him, then surely
God is his protector, and Gabriel
and the righteous among the
believers; and the angels too are
his helpers. [5] Were he to divorce
you, his Lord might well replace
you with better wives—
submissive [to God], believing,
pious, penitent, devout in
worship, given to fasting—
previously married and virgins.

[6] Believers, safeguard
yourselves and your families
from a Fire fuelled by people
and stones, and watched over by
angels, stern and strong: angels
who never disobey God's
commands to them, but promptly
do as they are commanded. [7] You
who are bent on denying the
truth, make no excuses today:
you are only being rewarded
according to your deeds.

[8] Believers, turn to God in
sincere repentance. Your Lord
may well forgive your bad deeds
and admit you into gardens
watered by running streams, on
a Day when God will not abase
the Prophet and those who have
believed with him. Their light

will shine out ahead of them and on their right, and they will say: ‘Lord perfect our light for us, and forgive us; You have power over all things.’

9 Prophet, exert yourself to the utmost against those who deny the truth and the hypocrites. Deal severely with them. Hell will be their abode—a vile destination. 10 As an example to those who are bent on denying the truth, God cited the wife of Noah and the wife of Lot, who were married to two of Our righteous servants, but who betrayed them. So they could not help them against God, and they were told, ‘Enter the Fire along with all the others.’

11 To the believers God has given the example of Pharaoh’s wife who said: ‘My Lord, build me a house in nearness to You in Paradise and save me from Pharaoh and his misdeeds. Save me from all evil-doers.’ 12 [God gave another example in the story of] Mary, ‘Imran’s daughter, who preserved her chastity and We breathed Our spirit into her; she testified to the words of her Lord and His Scriptures, and was truly devout.

67. THE KINGDOM

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Blessed is He in whose hand is the Kingdom: He has power over all things; 2 He created death and life so that He might test you, and find out which of you is best in conduct. He is the Mighty, the Most Forgiving One. 3 He created seven heavens one above the other in layers. You will not find any flaw in the creation of the Gracious One. Then look once again: can you see any flaw? 4 Then look again and again. Your gaze will come back to you confused and exhausted.

5 We have adorned the lowest

heaven with lamps, and We have
made them for driving away
devils. For them We have
prepared the punishment of the
blazing Fire. 6 Those who are
bent on blaspheming against their
Lord will have the punishment
of Hell: an evil destination.
7 When they are cast into it, they
will hear its roaring as it boils
up, 8 as though bursting with
rage. Each time a group is cast
into it, its keepers will ask them,
‘Did no warner come to you?’
9 They will say, ‘Of course, a
warner did come to us, but we
belied him and we said, “God
has revealed nothing; you are in
gross error”.’ 10 They will say, ‘If
we had only listened or
understood, we should not now
be among the inmates of Hell,’
11 and thus they will confess their
sin; far from God’s mercy are the
inmates of Hell.

12 As for those who fear their
Lord in the unseen will have
forgiveness and a rich reward.
13 Whether you speak in secret
or aloud, He knows what is in
every heart. 14 How could He
who created not know His own
creation, when He alone is the
Most Subtle in His wisdom and
the All Aware?

15 It is He who has made the
earth subservient to you, so
traverse its regions and eat its
provisions. To Him you shall all
be resurrected. 16 Do you feel
secure that He who is in heaven
will not cause the earth to sink
beneath you and then begin to
quake? 17 Do you feel secure that
the One in heaven will not send
against you a whirlwind to pelt
you with stones, so that you will
know how [true] My warning
was? 18 Those who went before
them belied [the truth]: then how
great was My rejection of them.

19 Do they not see the birds
above them spreading and
closing their wings? None save
the Merciful sustains them.
Surely, He observes all things.
20 Who is there to defend you
like an army, besides the Lord of
Mercy? Those who deny the
truth are in deception. 21 Who
can provide for you, if He
withholds His provision? Yet

they obstinately persist in rebellion and avoidance of the truth.

22 Is he who walks grovelling upon his face better guided, or he who walks upright upon a straight path? 23 Say, 'It is He who brought you into being, and made ears and eyes and hearts for you, yet you are seldom grateful.' 24 Say, 'It is He who has scattered you on the earth; and it is to Him that you shall all be gathered [on the Day of Resurrection].

25 They ask, 'When will this promise be fulfilled, if you are truthful?' 26 Say, 'God alone has knowledge of that; and I am only a plain warner.' 27 But when they see it drawing near, the faces of those who deny the truth will turn gloomy and they will be told, 'This is what you were calling for.' 28 Say, 'Have you thought: if God destroys me and those who are with me, or treats us mercifully, then who will protect those who deny the truth from a painful chastisement?' 29 Say, 'He is the Most Gracious: we believe in Him and we put our trust in Him. You will soon come to know who is in evident error.' 30 Say, 'Have you considered if your water were to sink into the ground, who could then bring you flowing water?'

68. THE PEN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 *Nun*

By the pen, and all that they write! 2 By the grace of your Lord, you are not a mad man. 3 Most surely, you will have a never ending reward. 4 For you are truly of a sublime character. 5 Soon you will see, as will they, 6 which of you is a prey to madness. 7 Your Lord knows best who has fallen by the wayside,

and who has remained on the
true path.

8 Do not give in to the deniers
of truth. 9 They want you to make
concessions to them and then
they will reciprocate. 10 Do not
yield to any contemptible swearer
of oaths, 11 or to any defamer or
one who spreads slander, 12 or to
one who places obstacles in the
way of good being done or to the
wicked transgressor, 13 who is
ignoble and besides all that, base-
born; 14 just because he has
wealth and sons, 15 when Our
revelations are recited to him, he
says, ‘These are just ancient
fables.’ 16 Soon We will brand
him on the nose.

17 We have tried them as we
tried the owners of a certain
orchard, who vowed to harvest
all its fruits the next morning,
18 without saying, ‘If it be God’s
will.’ 19 A calamity from your
Lord befell the orchard as they
slept. 20 And by morning it lay as
if it had already been harvested,
a barren land. 21 So they called
out to each other at the break of
dawn, 22 saying, ‘Be quick to
reach your orchard, if you want
to gather all your fruits.’ 23 So
they went off, whispering to one
another, 24 ‘Be sure to stop any
poor person from entering the
orchard today.’ 25 They set out
early in the morning, thinking
they had the power to prevent.
26 But when they saw it, they
said, ‘We must have lost our
way. 27 Indeed, we are utterly
ruined!’ 28 The more upright of
the two said, ‘Did I not bid you
to glorify God?’ 29 They said,
‘Glory be to God, our Lord. We
have surely done wrong.’ 30 Then
they began to heap reproaches
on each other. 31 They said, ‘Alas
for us, our behaviour was beyond
the pale. 32 May be our Lord will
give us a better orchard in its
stead; we turn to Him.’ 33 Such
was their punishment, [in this
life]. But the punishment of the
life to come is much more severe,
if only they knew it!

34 Those who are mindful of
their Lord will be rewarded with
gardens of bliss. 35 Should We
treat the true believers and the
wrongdoers alike? 36 What ails

you? How ill you judge! [37] Have you a Scripture that tells you [38] that you will be granted whatever you choose? [39] Or do you have Our solemn oaths, binding upon Us till the Day of Resurrection, that you shall have whatever you yourselves decide? [40] Ask them, which of them will vouch for that! [41] Or have they other partners [besides God]? Let them bring forth their other partners, if what they say be true.

[42] On the Day when the truth shall be laid bare, they will be called upon to prostrate themselves, but they will not be able to do so. [43] Their eyes will be cast down and they will be covered in shame; they were bidden to prostrate themselves, when they were safe and sound [but they did not obey]. [44] So leave to Me those who reject this message. We shall lead them step by step to their ruin, in ways beyond their ken. [45] I shall grant them some respite, for My plan is powerful.

[46] Do you demand some recompense from them that would weigh them down with debt? [47] Is the unseen within their grasp so that they write it down? [48] Wait patiently for your Lord's judgement; do not be like the man who, having been swallowed by a whale, called out in distress. [49] Had his Lord's grace not been bestowed upon him, he would have been cast away in disgrace upon that desolate shore. [50] But his Lord chose him for His own and made him one of the righteous. [51] When those who deny the truth hear the admonition, they would almost cause you to stumble with their evil eyes; and they say, 'He is certainly mad.' [52] Yet it is purely an admonition to mankind.

69. THE INEVITABLE HOUR

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 The Inevitable Hour! 2 What is
the Inevitable Hour? 3 And what
will make you realize what the
Inevitable Hour is? 4 The tribes
of Thamud and ‘Ad denied that
disaster would strike them: 5 the
Thamud were destroyed by a
terrible storm of thunder and
lightning; 6 and the ‘Ad were
destroyed by a furious wind
7 which God let loose against
them for seven nights and eight
days unremittingly, so that you
could have seen its people lying
prostrate as though they were the
hollow trunks of palm-trees
which had fallen down. 8 Do you
see any vestige left of them
now? 9 Pharoah and those before
him and the inhabitants of the
overthrown cities persistently
committed grave sins. 10 They
defied their Lord’s messenger,
so He seized them with an ever-
tightening grip. 11 But We bore
you away in the Ark, when the
waters rose high, 12 so that We
might make it a reminder for you
and so that attentive ears might
retain it.

13 When a single blast is blown
on the trumpet, 14 and the earth
and the mountains are lifted up
and then crushed with a single
blow, 15 on that Day the Great
Event will come to pass. 16 And
the sky will be rent asunder, for
on that Day it will be so frail.
17 The angels will appear by its
sides and, on that Day, eight
[angels] will bear your Lord’s
throne above them. 18 On that
Day you will be brought to
judgement and none of your
secrets will remain hidden.[a]

---

[a] The present world has been made with a view to putting human beings to the test. When the period of testing is over, this world will be demolished and a new world fashioned to meet new requirements will be made. The majesty of God at present reveals itself indirectly, but at that time the Majesty of God will be directly manifested.

19 Then he who is given his
record in his right hand will
exclaim, ‘Here is my record,
read it. 20 Surely, I knew that I
should meet my reckoning,’ 21 so
he will live in a state of Bliss
22 in a lofty garden, 23 with
clusters of fruit within easy reach.
24 We shall say to him, ‘Eat and
drink joyfully as a reward for the
good deeds you did in days gone
by.’ 25 But he who is given his
record in his left hand will say,
‘If only I had never been given
my Record 26 and knew nothing
of my reckoning. 27 How I wish
my death had ended all. 28 My
wealth has been of no use to me.
29 I am bereft of power.’ 30 Seize
him and fetter him, 31 and then
let him enter Hell. 32 Then fasten
him with a chain seventy cubits
long: 33 for he did not believe in
Almighty God, 34 nor did he feel
any urge to feed the needy, 35 so
today he has no friend here,
36 and the only food he has is
filth 37 which no one will eat
except the sinners.

38 But nay, I swear by all that
you can see 39 as well as all that
you cannot see: 40 most surely,
this is the word brought by a
noble messenger, 41 it is not the
word of a poet—how little you
believe!—42 Nor is it the word
of a soothsayer—how little you
reflect! 43 It is a revelation sent
down by the Sustainer of the
Universe: 44 if he had invented
any lies about Us, 45 We would
indeed have seized him by his
right hand 46 and would indeed
have cut his life-vein, 47 and none
of you could have held Us off
from him. 48 And surely it is an
admonition to the God-fearing.
49 We know very well that there
are some among you who reject
Our signs—50 it will be a source
of bitter regret for those who
deny the truth—51 it is the
indubitable truth. 52 So glorify the
name of your Lord, the Almighty.

70. THE ASCENDING STAIRWAYS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 A doubter once demanded that punishment be immediately meted out, 2 to those who deny the truth. No power can hinder God 3 from punishing them. He is the Lord of the Ascending Stairways, 4 by which the angels and the Spirit will ascend to Him in one Day which will last for fifty thousand years. 5 Therefore, [O believers] behave with seemly patience. 6 They see it [the Day of Judgement] to be far off, 7 but We see it near at hand. 8 On that Day the heavens shall become like molten brass, 9 and the mountains will become like tufts of wool, 10 and no friend will ask about his friend, 11 though they shall be within sight of each other. The guilty one will gladly ransom himself from the torment of that Day by sacrificing his own children, 12 his wife, his brother, 13 and his kinsfolk who gave him shelter, 14 and all the people of the earth, if that could deliver him.

15 But no! There is a raging blaze 16 stripping away his skin, 17 and it will claim all those who turned their backs [on the true faith] and turned away [from the truth], 18 and amassed wealth and hoarded it. 19 Indeed, man is born impatient: 20 when misfortune touches him he starts lamenting, 21 and whenever good fortune comes to him, he grows niggardly. 22 But not so the worshippers 23 who are steadfast in prayer; 24 those who give a due share of their wealth 25 to those who ask [for help] and to the destitute; 26 and those who believe in the Day of Judgement 27 and are fearful of the punishment of their Lord; 28 for none may ever feel secure from the punishment of their Lord; 29 those who preserve their chastity 30 except from their spouses and those whom they rightfully possess [through wedlock], for which they incur

no blame—31 but those who go
beyond that limit are
transgressors; 32 and those who
are faithful to their trusts and to
their pledges; 33 and those who
stand by their testimony 34 and
are steadfast in their prayers.
35 They will be honoured in the
Gardens of Bliss.

36 But what is the matter with
those who deny the truth, that
they come hastening towards you
37 from the right and from the
left, in crowds? 38 Does every
one of them aspire to be admitted
into a Garden of Delight?
39 Certainly not! They know
quite well out of what We
created them.

40 But nay! I call to witness the
Lord of the Easts and the Wests,
that We have the power 41 to
replace them with others better
than them: nothing can prevent
Us from doing this, 42 so leave
them to indulge in vain idle talk
and amuse themselves, until they
face the Day which they have
been promised, 43 the Day when
they shall come out of their graves
in haste, as if they were racing to
a goal, 44 with downcast eyes and
faces distorted in shame; such is
the Day which they are promised.

71. NOAH

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 We sent Noah forth to his
people, saying, ‘Warn your
people before there comes upon
them a grievous punishment.’
2 [Noah] said, ‘My people! I am
but a plain warner to you, 3 that
you should worship God [alone]
and be conscious of Him. Pay
heed to me. 4 He will forgive
your sins and will grant you
respite till an appointed time.
When the time appointed by
God arrives, it cannot be
postponed, if you only knew.’
5 He said, ‘My Lord! I have
called my people night and day

6 but my pleas have only increased their aversion. 7 Every time I have called to them, so that You might forgive them, they have only thrust their fingers into their ears, covered themselves up with their garments, grown obstinate, and given themselves up to arrogance. 8 Then I called them openly, 9 and spoke to them in public and in private.’ 10 Then I said, ‘Ask forgiveness of your Lord. Surely He is the most forgiving. 11 He will send down abundant rain from the sky for you, 12 increase your wealth and sons; and grant you gardens and waterways. 13 What is the matter with you that you deny the greatness of God, 14 when He has created you through different stages of existence? 15 Do you not see how God has created the seven heavens one above another, 16 and made the moon therein a light, and made the sun a lamp, 17 how God has produced you from the earth and caused you to grow, 18 how He will then return you to it and bring you forth again, 19 how God has spread the earth out for you 20 so that you may walk along its spacious paths?’

21 Noah supplicated, ‘Lord, they have disobeyed me, and followed those whose wealth and children have only added to their ruin; 22 and they have hatched a mighty plot, 23 and they said [to their followers], “Do not ever abandon your deities: abandon neither Wadd, nor Suwa‘, and neither Yaghuth, nor Yauq nor Nasr!” 24 They have led many astray; so lead the wrongdoers to further error.’ 25 They were drowned and sent to Hell for their misdeeds; they found no one to help them against God.

26 Noah prayed, ‘O my Lord! Do not leave on earth a single one of those who deny the truth— 27 if You leave any, they will misguide Your servants, and they will beget none but sinners and deniers of truth— 28 Lord! Forgive me and my parents and every true believer who enters my house, forgive all the

believing men and believing
women; and bestow no increase
upon the wrongdoers except in
ruin?

72. THE JINN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Say, ‘It has been revealed to me
that a band of the jinn listened
[to the Quran] and they said,
“We have heard a really
wonderful recital, 2 which guides
to the right path; so we have
believed in it and we will not
associate anyone with our Lord—
3 and exalted is the majesty of
our Lord—He has taken neither
a wife nor a son. 4 And [now we
know] that the foolish among us
have been saying outrageous
things about God. 5 We had
supposed that men and jinn
would never utter a lie against
God. 6 Some men used to seek
refuge with the jinn in the past,
but that only increased their
insolence. 7 They thought, as you
did, that God would never
raise up anyone from the dead. 8
We sought to reach heaven, but
found it filled with strong guards
and flames— 9 we used to take
up a position to listen, but
whoever listens now finds a
flaming fire lying in wait for
him— 10 we cannot tell if this
bodes evil to those who dwell on
earth or whether their Lord
intends to guide them. 11 Some
of us are righteous, while others
are not; we follow divergent
paths. 12 We have realized that
we could never thwart God on
earth and that we would never be
able to thwart Him by flight.
13 When we heard the call to
guidance, we believed in it. He
who believes in his Lord has no
fear of loss or of injustice.
14 Some of us are obedient while
others are wrongdoers; it is the
obedient who have found the
right path, 15 but those who are
wrongdoers will become the fuel
of Hell.” ’

[16] If they had followed the right path, We would have provided them with abundant rain—[17] so that We may test them by it—whoever turns away from the remembrance of his Lord shall be sternly punished. [18] The mosques are for God's worship—so do not invoke anyone else along with God—[19] when God's servant stood up to pray to Him, they pressed close to him in great numbers, almost stifling him. [20] Say, 'I call only upon my Lord and do not associate anyone else with Him.' [21] Say, 'It is not in my power to cause you either harm or good?' [22] Say, 'Surely no one can protect me against God, nor can I find besides Him any place of refuge. [23] My duty is only to convey that which I receive from Him and His messages.' For those who disobey God and His Messenger there is the fire of hell, wherein they will abide forever.

[24] When they are confronted by what they have been promised, they will realize who is weaker in helpers and fewer in numbers. [25] Say, 'I do not know whether what you are promised is imminent, or whether my Lord has set for it a far-off day. [26] He alone has knowledge of what is hidden. He reveals this to none, [27] except the messenger whom He has chosen. He sends down guardians who walk before them and behind them, [28] so that He may know that the messengers have delivered the messages of their Lord. He encompasses all that is with them and He keeps count of all things.

73. THE WRAPPED ONE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] O you who are wrapped up in your mantle, [2] stand up to pray for much of the night. [3] It may be half the night or a little less than that [4] or a little more, but recite the Quran slowly and distinctly.

5 For We are about to send down to you a message of considerable gravity.

6 Surely, getting up at night [for worship] is the most potent means of subduing the self and most suitable for the word [of prayer]. 7 You have by day prolonged occupations [with Dawah work]. 8 Remember the name of your Lord, and devote yourself to Him wholeheartedly. 9 He is the Lord of the east and the west, there is no deity but Him, so take Him as your Guardian. 10 Bear patiently with what they say, and ignore them politely. 11 Leave it to Me to deal with the deniers, who live a life of comfort, and bear with them a little longer. 12 We have in store for them heavy fetters and a blazing Fire, 13 food that chokes and painful punishment 14 on the Day the earth and mountains shall shake and the mountains crumble into shifting sand dunes.

15 We have sent a messenger who is a witness over you, just as We sent a messenger to Pharoah before you. 16 But Pharoah rebelled against the messenger, so We seized him with a strong, crushing grip. 17 If you persist in denying the truth how will you escape the Day that will turn the children's hair grey. 18 The Day when the heavens will be rent asunder and God's promise shall be fulfilled. 19 This, surely, is an admonition. So let him who will, take the right path to his Lord.

20 Your Lord knows that you stand up praying for nearly two-thirds of the night, or one-half of it and sometimes one third of it, as do others among your followers. God determines the measure of night and day. He knows that you will not be able to do it, so He has turned to you in mercy. Recite, then, as much of the Quran as is easy for you. He knows that there will be some among you who may be sick and others who will be travelling throughout the land seeking God's bounty, and yet others who may be fighting for the cause of God. So, recite, then as much of it as you are able, and be constant in prayer, and spend

in charity, and give to God a goodly loan. For whatever good deed you send on before you for your souls, you will find it with God. It will be improved and richly rewarded by Him. Seek God's forgiveness, He is most forgiving, most merciful.

74. WRAPPED IN HIS CLOAK

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 You, wrapped in your cloak,
2 arise and give warning!
3 Proclaim the glory of your Lord;
4 purify your garments; 5 shun
uncleanness; 6 do not bestow a
favour in the expectation of
receiving more in return; 7 and for
the sake of your Lord, be patient.
8 When the Trumpet is
sounded, 9 that Day will be a
hard and distressing Day. 10 It
will not be easy for those who
deny the truth. 11 Leave Me alone
[to deal] with him whom I have
created alone, 12 and to whom I
have granted resources in
abundance, 13 and sons to be by
his side, 14 and whom I have
provided with every resource,
15 and yet, he greedily desires
that I give him even more! 16 By
no means! He has been
stubbornly hostile to Our
revelation: 17 I shall force him to
endure a painful uphill climb!
18 For he thought and he
plotted—19 and woe to him; how
he plotted! 20 Let him be
destroyed. How he calculated!
21 Then he looked round; 22 then
he frowned and scowled, 23 and
he turned his back and behaved
arrogantly 24 and said, 'This is
nothing but sorcery from the
ancients. 25 This is nothing but
the word of a mortal!'
26 Soon I will cast him into
hell. 27 What could make you
conceive what hell-fire is? 28 It
does not allow anyone to live,
and neither does it leave anyone
to die; 29 it scorches the skin;

[30] there are nineteen [angels] in charge of it—[31] We have appointed only angels to be wardens of the Fire. We have specified their number only as a trial for those who are bent on denying the truth, so that those who were given the Book might gain in certainty, and those who believe might increase in faith—and so that neither those who have been given the Scripture nor the believers might have any doubts, and that those sick at heart and those who deny the truth might ask, 'What does God mean by this parable?' In this way, God lets go astray whom He wills, and guides whom He wills. And none knows the forces of your Lord but He. This is but a Reminder for man.

[32] No, by the moon! [33] By the night when it departs. [34] By the dawn when it lightens! [35] Surely, it is one of the gravest things, [36] it is a warning to man, [37] alike to every one of you, who want to go forward or hang back. [38] Every soul is held in pledge against its own deeds, [39] except those of the right hand [40] who in their gardens will be enquiring [41] about the sinners. [42] 'What has brought you into the Fire of Hell ?' [43] and they shall reply, 'We were not among those who prayed; [44] and we did not feed the poor; [45] we indulged in vain arguments along with those who indulged in them; [46] and we denied the Day of Judgement [47] until the Inevitable End [death] overtook us.' [48] So no intercession will avail them.

[49] Then what is wrong with them that they turn away from admonition, [50] like frightened donkeys [51] fleeing from a lion? [52] Indeed, everyone of them desires to have sheets of revelations unfolded before them—[53] No! They do not fear the Hereafter—[54] but this is truly a reminder. [55] Let him who will take heed: [56] they will only take heed if God so wills: He is the Lord who is worthy to be feared: the Lord of forgiveness.

75. THE DAY OF RESURRECTION

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 By the Day of Resurrection,
2 and by the self-reproaching
soul! 3 Does man think that We
cannot [resurrect him and] bring
his bones together again?
4 Indeed, We have the power to
restore his very finger tips! 5 Yet
man wants to deny what is ahead
of him: 6 he asks, 'When is this
Day of Resurrection to be?' 7 But
[on that Day], when mortal sight
is confounded, 8 and the moon is
eclipsed, 9 when the sun and the
moon are brought together, 10 on
that Day man will ask, 'Where
can I escape?' 11 But there is
nowhere to take refuge: 12 on
that Day, to your Lord alone is
the recourse. 13 On that Day,
man will be told of all that he has
sent before and what he has left
behind. 14 Indeed, man shall be a
witness against himself, 15 in
spite of all the excuses he
may offer.

16 [Prophet], do not move your
tongue too fast in your attempt
to learn this revelation: 17 We
Ourself shall see to its collection
and recital. 18 When We have
recited it, follow its words
attentively; 19 and then, it will be
for Us to make its meaning clear.

20 Truly, you love immediate
gain 21 and neglect the Hereafter.
22 Some faces will be radiant on
that Day, 23 looking towards their
Lord; 24 and some faces will on
that Day be gloomy, 25 dreading
some great affliction. 26 But when
[man's soul] reaches the throat,
27 and when it is asked: 'Could
any magician save him now?';
28 and he knows that it is the time
of parting; 29 when his legs are
brought together [when affliction
is combined with affliction];
30 on that Day he will be driven
towards your Lord!

31 He neither believed nor
prayed, 32 but rejected the Truth
and turned away! 33 Then he went
off to his people, swaggering.
34 Woe to you, [O man!], yes,

woe to you. 35 Again, woe to
you, [O man!], yes, woe to you!
36 Does man, then, think that he
is to be left to himself, to go
about at will? 37 Was he not once
a drop of ejaculated semen,
38 which then became a
leech-like clot; then God shaped
and fashioned him in due
proportion, 39 fashioning out of
him the two sexes, the male and
the female? 40 Then is He not
able to bring the dead back
to life?

76. MAN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Was there not a period of time
when man was nothing worth
mentioning? 2 We created man
from a drop of mingled fluid so
that We might try him; We gave
him hearing and sight; 3 We
showed him the way, whether he
be grateful or ungrateful.

4 [Now,] behold, for those who
deny the truth, We have prepared
chains, iron collars and a blazing
fire, but 5 the righteous shall
drink from a cup mixed with the
coolness of *kafur,*[a] 6 a spring
from which God's servants will
drink, making it gush forth in
branches. 7 They keep their vows
and fear a day the woe of which
will spread far and wide; 8 they
give food, despite their love for
it, to the poor and orphans and
captives, 9 saying, 'We feed you
for the sake of God alone, we
seek neither recompense nor
thanks from you. 10 Truly, we
fear from our Lord a woefully
grim Day.' 11 Therefore, God will
ward off from them the woes of
that Day, and make them find
brightness and joy, 12 and their
reward for being patient will be
a Garden and silk [clothing].
13 Reclining upon couches, they
will find therein neither the heat

[a] Camphor—a sweet smelling herb.

of the sun nor bitter, biting cold,
14 the shading branches of trees
will come down low over them,
and their clusters of fruit, will
hang down where they are the
easiest to reach. 15 Vessels of
silver and goblets of pure crystal
will be passed round among them
16 and gleaming silver goblets
which have been filled to the
exact measure, 17 and they will
be given a cup to drink flavoured
with ginger, 18 from a flowing
spring called Salsabil. 19 They
will be attended by youths who
will not age—when you see them
you will think them to be like
sprinkled pearls—20 wherever
you look, you will see bliss and
a great kingdom: 21 they will
wear green garments of fine silk
and rich brocade. They will be
adorned with silver bracelets.
And their Lord will give them a
pure drink. 22 This is your reward.
Your endeavour is fully
acknowledged.

23 Truly, it is We who have
revealed to you the Quran, a
gradual revelation. 24 So wait
patiently for the command of
your Lord, and do not yield to
anyone among them who is sinful
or ungrateful; 25 and glorify your
Lord morning and evening; 26 and
during the night prostrate ourself
before Him, and extol His glory
for a long part of the night.
27 Those people [who are
unmindful of God] aspire for
immediate gains, and put behind
them a Heavy Day. 28 It was We
who created them and made their
constitution strong, but if We
wish we can replace them with
others like them. 29 This is a
reminder. Let whoever wishes,
take the right path to his Lord.
30 But you cannot will it unless
God wills [to show you that
way]—God is indeed all-
knowing and wise—31 He
admits whoever He will into
His grace and has prepared a
painful punishment for the
evil doers.

77. THOSE THAT ARE SENT FORTH

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] By the winds sent forth in swift
succession, [2] and then storming
on with a tempest's force, [3] and
the rain-spreading winds,
[4] separating one from another,
[5] by those who bring down the
reminder, [6] to excuse some and
warn others: [7] that which you
have been promised shall be
fulfilled.

[8] When the stars lose their
light, [9] and when the sky is rent
asunder, [10] and when the
mountains crumble into dust
[11] and when the messengers are
brought together at the appointed
time—[12] for what Day has this
been appointed? [13] For the Day
of Decision. [14] What will explain
to you what the Day of Judgement
is? [15] Woe on that Day to those
who reject the truth. [16] Did We
not destroy the earlier peoples?
[17] We will now cause the later
ones to follow them: [18] thus do
We deal with the culprits. [19] Woe
on that Day to those who reject
the truth!

[20] Did We not create you from
a humble fluid, [21] then placed it
in a secure repository [the
womb], [22] for an appointed term?
[23] Thus We have determined the
stages of development and Our
power to determine is excellent
indeed. [24] Woe on that Day to
those who reject the truth!
[25] Have We not made the earth a
receptacle, [26] for the living and
the dead? [27] Have We not placed
high mountains upon it and given
you fresh water to drink? [28] Woe
on that Day to those who reject
the truth!

[29] Proceed to that which you
denied. [30] Proceed to a shadow
rising in three columns:
[31] affording neither shade, nor
protection from the flames, [32] and
throwing up sparks as huge as
towers [33] and as bright as a herd
of yellow camels. [34] Woe on that

Day to those who reject the truth! 35 On that Day they will be speechless, 36 nor shall they be permitted to offer excuses. 37 Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth! 38 This is the Day of Judgement. We have assembled you all together with past generations. 39 If now you have any strategy, use it against Me. 40 Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth!

41 The righteous shall dwell amidst cool shades and fountains, 42 and shall have fruits such as they desire; 43 [They will be told], ‘Eat and drink with relish in return for what you did [in life]: 44 this is how We reward those who do good.’ 45 [But] woe on that Day to those who reject the truth! 46 Eat [your fill] and enjoy your life for a little while, O you who are lost in sin. 47 Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth! 48 When they are bidden to bow down, they do not bow down. 49 Woe on that Day to those who reject the truth! 50 In which word then, after this, will they believe?

78. THE TIDINGS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 What are they asking each other about? 2 About the awesome tidings [of resurrection] 3 concerning which they are in disagreement! 4 But they will soon come to know. 5 Surely, they will soon find out the truth! 6 Have We not spread the earth like a bed, 7 and raised the mountains like supporting poles? 8 We created you in pairs, 9 and gave you repose in sleep, 10 and the night as a cover, 11 and made the day for earning a livelihood. 12 We have built above you seven mighty heavens, 13 and We have set therein a glowing lamp. 14 From the rain clouds We send

waters pouring down in abundance, 15 so that We may bring forth thereby grain and a variety of plants, 16 and gardens dense with foliage. 17 Surely, the Day of Judgement has an appointed time.

18 On that Day when the trumpet shall be sounded, you shall come in droves, 19 and the heaven shall be opened, and become gates, 20 and the mountains shall be made to vanish, as if they had been a mirage. 21 Surely, Hell lies in wait, 22 a home for the transgressors, 23 where they shall remain for ages, 24 and where they will taste neither coolness nor any drink 25 save boiling water and a stinking fluid—26 a fitting requital, 27 for they never expected to be called to account, 28 and they rejected outright Our signs; 29 but We have recorded everything in a Book. 30 [So We shall say], ‘Taste, then, [the fruit of your evil doings,] for now We shall bestow on you nothing but more and more suffering!’

31 As for those who are mindful of God, they shall surely triumph: 32 theirs shall be gardens and vineyards, 33 and young maidens of equal age, 34 and overflowing cups. 35 There they shall not hear any idle talk, or any untruth: 36 all this will be a recompense, a gift, that will suffice them, from your Lord, 37 the Sustainer of the heavens and the earth and all that lies between them, the most Gracious [and] none shall have it in their power to raise their voices to Him. 38 On the Day when the Spirit and the angels stand in ranks, no one will speak, except for those to whom the Lord of Mercy gives permission, and who will say only what is right. 39 That Day is sure to come, so whoever wishes to, let him take the path that leads towards his Lord. 40 We have warned you of a chastisement which is near at hand, on the Day when man shall [clearly] see what his hands have sent ahead, and when he who has denied the truth shall say, ‘Oh, would that I were dust!’

79. THE PLUCKERS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 By [the winds] that pluck out
vehemently 2 and those that blow
gently, 3 and by [the clouds] that
swim serenely and 4 by those
that outstrip them suddenly, 5 and
by those who regulate events.
6 On the Day when a violent
convulsion will convulse [the
world], 7 to be followed by
further [convulsions], 8 hearts
will be throbbing, 9 while eyes
will be downcast. 10 They say,
'What? shall we be brought back
to life, 11 even after we have
turned into decayed bones?'
12 and they say, 'That indeed
would be a losing return.' 13 But
all it will take is a single blast,
14 and behold! They will all come
out in the open.

15 Have you heard the story of
Moses? 16 His Lord called out to
him by the sacred valley of Tuwa:
17 [saying], 'Go to Pharaoh, he
has exceeded all bounds, 18 and
say, "Will you reform yourself?
19 Do you want me to guide you
to your Lord, so that you should
fear Him?"' 20 Moses showed
him the great sign, 21 but he
denied it and refused [the faith].
22 Then he quickly turned his
back. 23 And he summoned all
his people, 24 and proclaimed, 'I
am your supreme Lord,' 25 but
God seized him and meted out to
him the chastisement of both the
next world and the present:
26 surely there is in this a lesson
for the God-fearing.

27 [O Men!] Are you more
difficult to create than the heaven
which He has built, 28 by raising
its vault high and fashioning it
flawlessly, 29 and making its night
dark and bringing forth its
morning light, 30 and the earth
which He spread out, 31 after that
bringing forth from it its water
and its pasture land, 32 and
making the mountains firm:
33 [all this] as a means of
sustenance for you and your
animals?

34 When the great overwhelming event arrives, 35 on the Day that man remembers what he strove for 36 and Hell is there for all to see, 37 anyone who has acted arrogantly 38 and prefers the life of this world, 39 will find himself in Hell; 40 but one who fears to stand before his Lord and restrained himself from base desires, 41 shall dwell in Paradise. 42 They will ask you [Prophet] about the Hour, saying, ‘When it will come to pass?’, 43 what have you to do with the mentioning of it? 44 Your Lord alone knows when it will come; 45 you are but a warner for those who fear it. 46 On the Day when they see it, they will feel as if they had tarried in this world for only one evening or one morning.

80. HE FROWNED

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 He frowned and turned away 2 when the blind man approached him, 3 for how can you know that he might seek to purify himself, 4 or take heed and derive benefit from [Our] warning? 5 As for him who was indifferent, 6 you eagerly attended to him— 7 though you are not to be blamed if he would not purify himself— 8 but as for one who comes to you, eagerly 9 and in awe of God 10 you pay him no heed. 11 Indeed, this [Quran] is an admonition. 12 Let him who will, pay heed to it. 13 It is set down on honoured pages, 14 exalted and purified, 15 by the hands of 16 noble and virtuous scribes. 17 Woe to man! How ungrateful he is! 18 Of what [stuff] has He created him? 19 Out of a drop of sperm! He creates and proportions him, 20 He makes his path easy for him. 21 Then He causes him to die and be buried. 22 Then when He pleases, He will bring him back to life. 23 Yet man declines to do His bidding.

[24] Let man reflect on the food he
eats. [25] We let the rain pour
down in torrents [26] and then We
cleaved the earth asunder. [27] We
make the grain grow out of it,
[28] and grape vines and vegetables,
[29] and olive trees and date palms
[30] and burgeoning enclosed
gardens [31] and fruits and fodder
[32] as provision for you and for
your cattle to enjoy.

[33] But when the deafening blast
is sounded, [34] on that Day a man
shall flee from his own brother,
[35] his mother, his father, [36] his
wife and his sons: [37] on that Day
every man among them will have
enough concern of his own—
[38] on that Day some faces will be
beaming, [39] laughing, and
rejoicing, [40] but some faces will
be covered with dust [41] and
overcast with gloom: [42] those
will be ones who denied the
truth and were immersed in
iniquity.

81. FOLDING UP

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] When the sun is folded up,
[2] and when the stars lose their
light, [3] and when the mountains
are moved, [4] when ten-month
pregnant camels are left
untended, [5] and when all beasts
are gathered together, [6] and when
the seas are set on fire, [7] when
the souls are divided into
different classes, [8] and when the
female infant buried alive is
asked [9] for what sin she was
killed, [10] when the records of
men's deeds are laid open,
[11] when the sky is unveiled, [12] and
when Hell is set ablaze, [13] when
Paradise is brought close:
[14] [then] each soul shall know
what it has put forward.

[15] I swear by the receding stars,
[16] the planets that run their course
and set, [17] and the night that
falls, [18] and the first breath of
morning. [19] Truly, this is the word

brought by a noble messenger,
20 endowed with power and held
in honour by the Lord of the
Throne—21 who is obeyed there
and is worthy of trust. 22 Your
companion is not one possessed:
23 he truly beheld him [the angel]
on the clear horizon. 24 He is not
avid of the Unseen. 25 Nor is this
the word of an outcast devil.
26 So where are you going?
27 This is merely a reminder to
all mankind; 28 to every one of
you who wishes to tread the
straight path. 29 But you cannot
will it unless God, the Lord of
the Universe, so wills it [to show
you that way].

82. THE CLEAVING ASUNDER

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 When the sky is cleft asunder;
2 and when the stars are scattered;
3 when the seas overflow; 4 and
when the graves are laid open:
5 then everyone will know what
he has sent ahead, and what he
has left behind. 6 O man! What is
it that lures you away from your
bountiful Sustainer, 7 who
created you, fashioned you and
proportioned you, 8 in whatever
form He pleased? 9 Yet you deny
the Last Judgement. 10 Surely,
there are guardians watching
over you, 11 noble recorders,
12 who know all that you do:[a]
13 the virtuous will dwell in bliss,
14 whereas the wicked will be in
Hell; 15 which they shall enter on
the Day of Judgement, 16 and
from which they will find no
escape. 17 What will make you

[a] The Quran informs us that the Day of Judgement will finally come: all of humanity will be assembled on that Day and will be rewarded or punished according to their deeds. These tidings are absolutely consistent with the present condition of the world. Indeed, the meaningful creation of the human being has its justification in this announcement.

realize what the Day of Judgement will be? [18] Again: what will make you realize what the Day of Judgement will be? [19] It will be a Day when no human being shall be of the least avail to any other human being, God [alone] will hold command on that Day.

83. THOSE WHO GIVE SHORT MEASURE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] Woe to those who give short measure, [2] who demand of other people full measure for themselves, [3] but when they give by measurement or weight to others, they give them less. [4] Do such people not realize that they will be raised up, [5] on a fateful Day. [6] The Day when mankind will stand before the Lord of the Universe? [7] Indeed! The record of the wicked is in the Sijjin—[8] and what could make you understand what the Sijjin is?—[9] it is a written record. [10] Woe, on that Day, to those who reject, [11] those who deny the Day of Judgement. [12] No one denies it except for the evil aggressor. [13] When Our revelations are conveyed to him, he says, 'Fables of the ancients!' [14] No! Their own deeds have cast a veil over their hearts. [15] Indeed! On that Day a barrier will be set between them and their Lord, [16] then they shall enter the Fire of Hell, [17] and they will be told, 'This is what you were wont to belie.'

[18] But, the record of the righteous is [preserved] in the 'Illiyyin—[19] and what will make you understand what the 'Illiyyin is?—[20] a written record, [21] which those angels closest to God will bear witness to. [22] The virtuous will surely be in bliss, [23] seated on couches and gazing around in

wonder. 24 You will find in their
faces the brightness of bliss.
25 They will be given a drink of
pure wine, sealed, 26 its seal will
be of musk—for this let the
aspirants aspire—27 a wine
tempered with the waters of
Tasnim, 28 a spring at which those
drawn close to God will drink.
29 The wicked used to laugh at
the believers—30 when they
passed by them, they would wink
at one another; 31 and when they
returned to their own people,
they would speak of them
jestingly; 32 and when they saw
them, they said [scornfully],
'These men have surely gone
astray,' 33 though they were not
sent to be their keepers—34 so
today those who believe shall
[be able to] laugh at those who
denied the truth 35 as they sit on
couches, gazing around. 36 Have
those who deny the truth [not]
been paid back for their deeds?

84. THE BURSTING OPEN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 When the sky bursts open, 2 and
obeys its Lord as it must, 3 when
the earth flattens out, 4 and casts
out all that is within it and
becomes empty; 5 and obeys its
Lord as it must, 6 O man, having
striven hard towards your Lord,
you shall meet Him: 7 he who is
given his record in his right hand
8 shall have an easy reckoning
9 and he shall return to his people,
joyfully, 10 but as for him whose
record shall be given to him
from behind his back, 11 he will
pray for utter destruction 12 and
he will enter the blazing flame.
13 He used to be happy with his
own people; 14 for he never
thought that he would have to
return [to God]. 15 But he will
indeed! His Lord was ever
watching him. 16 I swear by the
glow of sunset, 17 by the night
and what it covers, 18 and the
moon when it grows full, 19 you
will progress from stage to stage.

20 What is wrong with them that
they do not believe? 21 When the
Quran is read to them, why do
they not fall to their knees?
22 Indeed, those who are bent on
denying the truth reject it—
23 God is quite aware of what
they are storing in their hearts.
24 Therefore, give them the
news of a painful punishment.
25 But for those who believe
and do good works; for
them there shall be a never-
ending reward.

85. THE CONSTELLATIONS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 By the sky with its
constellations, 2 and by the
promised Day, 3 by the Witness
and the witnessed, 4 destroyed
were the people of the trench,
5 the makers of the fuel-stoked
fire! 6 They sat by it 7 to watch
what they were doing to the
believers, 8 whom they hated for
no other reason than that they
believed in God, the Almighty,
the Praiseworthy, 9 to whom
belongs the kingdom of the
heavens and the earth. God is
witness over all things. 10 Those
who persecute the believing men
and believing women, and then
do not repent, will surely suffer
the punishment of Hell, and the
torment of burning. 11 But those
who believe and do good deeds
shall be rewarded with gardens
watered by flowing rivers. That
is the supreme triumph. 12 The
grip of your Lord is indeed
severe—13 it is He who begins
and repeats [His creation]—
14 and He is the Forgiving and
Loving One. 15 The Lord of the
Glorious Throne, 16 Executor of
His own will. 17 Have you not
heard the story of the hosts 18 of
Pharaoh and Thamud? 19 Yet
those who deny the truth persist
in denial. 20 God encompasses
them from all sides. 21 It is indeed
a glorious Quran, 22 written on a
preserved Tablet.

86. THAT WHICH COMES IN THE NIGHT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 By the heavens and that which
comes in the night—2 and what
could make you know what it is
that comes in the night? 3 It is the
shining star—4 [for] no human
being has been left unguarded.
5 Let man reflect on what he was
created from. 6 He was created
from spurting fluid, 7 issuing
from between the backbone and
the breastbone: 8 He certainly
has the power to bring him back
to life. 9 On the Day when secrets
are disclosed, 10 [man] will have
no power, and no helper. 11 By
the heavens, ever-revolving, 12 by
the earth cracking open with
new growth. 13 It is surely a
decisive utterance; 14 and is not
to be taken lightly. 15 They are
planning a scheme, 16 and so am
I: 17 so bear with those who deny
the truth, and let them be for a
little while.

87. THE MOST HIGH

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Glorify the name of your Lord,
the Most High, 2 who created all
things and gave them due
proportions, 3 who determines
the nature [of all that exists], and
guided it accordingly; 4 who
brings forth green pasture, 5 then
turns it into black stubble. 6 [O
Prophet!] We shall make you
recite the Quran so that you will
not forget any of it—7 except
whatever God wills; He knows
both what is manifest and what
is hidden—8 We shall facilitate
for you the Easy Way. 9 Remind,
if the reminder can be of benefit.

10 He who fears [God] will heed
the reminder, 11 but it will be
ignored by the most unfortunate,
12 who will enter the Great Fire,
13 where he will neither die nor
live. 14 He who purifies himself,
15 who remembers the name
of his Lord and prays, shall
indeed be successful. 16 But
you prefer the life of
this world, 17 although the
Hereafter is better and more
lasting. 18 This indeed is what is
taught in the former
scriptures—19 the scriptures of
Abraham and Moses.

88. THE OVERWHELMING EVENT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Have you heard about the
Overwhelming Event? 2 On that
Day, there shall be downcast
faces, 3 labouring, weary, 4 they
shall enter a burning Fire 5 and
will be made to drink from a
boiling spring, 6 they shall have
no food but thorns, 7 which will
neither nourish nor satisfy
hunger. 8 Some faces on that Day
will be radiant, 9 well pleased
with the result of their striving,
10 in a sublime garden, 11 where
they will hear no idle talk, 12 with
a flowing spring, 13 raised
couches, 14 and goblets set at
hand, 15 cushions ranged, 16 and
carpets spread out. 17 Do they
never reflect on the camels and
how they were created, 18 and on
the sky, how it is raised aloft,
19 and on the mountains, how
they are firmly set up, 20 and on
the earth, how it is spread out?
21 So, [O Prophet] exhort them:
your task is only to exhort, 22 you
are not their keeper. 23 But
whoever turns back and denies
the truth, 24 will be punished by
God with the greatest
punishment. 25 Certainly, it is to
Us that they will return. 26 Then,
surely, it is for Us to call them to
account.

89. THE DAWN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 By the Dawn, 2 by the Ten
Nights, 3 by the even and the
odd, 4 and by the passing night,
5 is there not in this strong
evidence for a man of sense?
6 Have you not heard of how
your Lord dealt with the tribe of
'Ad, 7 the people of Iram, the
city of many pillars, 8 the like of
which has never been created in
the land, 9 and with the Thamud,
who cut out [huge] rocks in the
valley, 10 and with Pharaoh of
the stakes? 11 All of them
committed excesses in their
lands, 12 and caused much
corruption in them: 13 so your
Lord unleashed on them the
scourge of punishment: 14 for,
indeed, your Sustainer is ever on
the watch! 15 As for man, when
his Lord tests him, through
honour and blessings, he says,
'My Lord has honoured me,'
16 but when He tests him by
straitening his means of
livelihood, he says, 'My Lord
has disgraced me.' 17 No indeed,
but you show no kindness to the
orphan, 18 nor do you urge one
another to feed the poor, 19 and
you greedily devour the
inheritance of the weak, 20 and
you have a love of wealth which
can never be satisfied. 21 No
indeed! When the earth is crushed
and ground to dust, 22 when your
Lord comes down with the
angels, rank upon rank, 23 and
Hell is made to appear on that
Day, then man will be mindful,
but what will being mindful then
avail him? 24 He will say, 'Oh,
would that I had provided
beforehand for my life!' 25 On
that Day no one will punish as
He punishes, 26 and none
can bind with bonds like His!
27 [But to the righteous, God
will say], 'O soul at peace,
28 return to your Lord,
well-pleased, well-pleasing.
29 Join My servants. 30 Enter
My Paradise.'

90. THE CITY

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 I swear by this city—2 and you
are dwelling in this city—3 and
by parent and offspring, 4 that
We have created man into a life
of toil and trial. 5 Does he think
then that no one has power over
him? 6 He says, ‘I have spent
enormous wealth.’ 7 Does he then
think that no one sees him?
8 Have We not given him two
eyes, 9 and a tongue, and a pair
of lips, 10 and shown him the two
paths? 11 But he has not attempted
the ascent. 12 What will explain
to you what the ascent is? 13 It is
the freeing of a slave; 14 or the
feeding in times of famine 15 of
an orphaned relative 16 or some
needy person in distress, 17 and
to be one of those who believe
and urge one another to
steadfastness and compassion.
18 Those who do so are the
people of the right hand, 19 and
[as for] those who are bent
on denying the truth of
Our revelations, they are
the people of the left hand,
20 and the Fire will close in
on them.

91. THE SUN

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 By the sun and its rising
brightness 2 and by the moon as
it follows it, 3 and by the day as
it reveals its glory 4 and by the
night when it draws a veil over
it, 5 by the sky and how He built
it 6 and by the earth and how He
spread it, 7 by the soul and how
He formed it, 8 then inspired it to
understand what was right and
wrong for it. 9 He who purifies it
will indeed be successful, 10 and

he who corrupts it is sure to fail.
11 The Thamud tribe rejected the
truth because of their arrogance,
12 when the most wicked man
among them rose up. 13 Then the
messenger of God said to them,
‘This is God’s she-camel. Let
her drink.’ 14 But they gave
him the lie, and hamstrung the
she-camel. So their Lord
destroyed them for their crime
and razed their city to
the ground. 15 He did not fear
the consequences.

92. NIGHT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 By the night as it veils [the
earth] in darkness, 2 and by the
day as it appears radiantly, 3 and
by the creation of the male and
the female. 4 O men, you truly
strive towards the most diverse
ends! 5 As for one who gives [to
others] and fears [God], 6 and
believes in the truth of what is
right, 7 We will pave his way to
ease. 8 But as for one who is
miserly and unheeding, 9 and
rejects what is right, 10 We shall
pave his way to hardship, 11 nor
will his wealth profit him when
he falls [into the pit]. 12 Surely, it
is for Us to provide guidance—
13 and to Us belongs the Hereafter
as well as the present world—
14 I have warned you then about
a raging Fire: 15 none shall enter
it but the most wicked, 16 who
denied [the truth], and turned
away. 17 One who fears God
shall be kept away from it—
18 one who gives his wealth to
become purified, 19 and owes no
favour to anyone, which is to be
repaid, 20 acting only for the sake
of his Lord the Most High—
21 and before long he will be
well satisfied.

93. THE GLORIOUS MORNING LIGHT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 By the glorious morning light;
2 and by the night when it
darkens, 3 your Lord has not
forsaken you, nor is He
displeased with you, 4 and the
Hereafter will indeed be better
for you than the present life;
5 soon you will be gratified with
what your Lord will give
you. 6 Did He not find you
orphaned and shelter you? 7 Did
He not find you wandering, and
give you guidance? 8 Did He not
find you in want, and make you
free from want? 9 Therefore do
not treat the orphan with
harshness, 10 and do not chide
the one who asks for help; 11 but
proclaim the blessings of
your Lord.

94. COMFORT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Have We not lifted up your
heart, 2 and removed your burden
3 that weighed so heavily on your
back, and 4 have We not given
you high renown? 5 So, surely
with every hardship there is ease;
6 surely, with every hardship there
is ease. 7 So, when you are free,
strive hard, 8 and to your Lord
turn [all] your attention.

95. THE FIG

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 By the Fig and the Olive, 2 and
by Mount Sinai, 3 and by this
secure land, 4 We have indeed
created man in the best of mould,
5 then We cast him down as the
lowest of the low, 6 except for
those who believe and do good
deeds—theirs shall be an
unending reward! 7 What then
after this, can make you deny the
Last Judgement? 8 Is not God
the greatest of the judges?

96. THE CLOT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Read! In the name of your
Lord, who created: 2 created man
from a clot [of blood]. 3 Read!
Your Lord is the Most Bountiful
One 4 who taught by the pen,
5 taught man what he did
not know. 6 Yet man behaves
arrogantly, 7 because he thinks
himself self-sufficient: 8 truly, all
will return to your Lord. 9 Have
you seen one who prevents 10 a
worshipper from praying? 11 Do
you think he is rightly guided,
12 or enjoins true piety? 13 Do
you see how he has denied the
truth and turned away from it?
14 Does he not know that God
observes all things? 15 Let him
beware! If he does not desist, We
will drag him by the forelock—
16 his lying, sinful forelock.
17 Then let him call his associates;
18 We shall summon the guards
of Hell. 19 No indeed! Do not
obey him, but prostrate yourself
and come closer to God.

97. THE NIGHT OF DESTINY

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] We sent it [Quran] down on the Night of Destiny. [2] And what will make you comprehend what the Night of Destiny is? [3] The Night of Destiny is better than a thousand months; [4] on that night, the angels and the Spirit come down by the permission of their Lord with His decrees for all matters; [5] it is all peace till the break of dawn.

98. THE CLEAR EVIDENCE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

[1] The deniers of truth from among the People of the Book and the polytheists would not desist from disbelief until they received clear evidence—[2] a messenger from God, reciting to them pure scriptures, [3] containing upright precepts. [4] Those who were given the Book did not become divided except after clear evidence was given to them. [5] They were commanded only to worship God, offering Him sincere devotion, to be sincere in their faith, to pray regularly; and to give alms, for that is the right religion. [6] Those of the deniers of truth among the People of the Book and the polytheists will dwell forever in Hell-fire. They are the worst of creatures. [7] Truly, those who believe and do good works are the best of creatures. [8] God has a reward in store for them: Gardens of eternity, through which rivers flow; they will dwell therein forever. God is well pleased with them and they are well pleased with Him. Thus shall the God-fearing be rewarded.

99. THE EARTHQUAKE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 When the earth is shaken with
its violent shaking, 2 when the
earth shakes off her burdens,
3 when man asks, ‘What is
happening to her?’; 4 on that
Day it will narrate its account,
5 for your Lord has so directed it.
6 On that Day people will come
forward in separate groups to be
shown their deeds: 7 whoever
has done the smallest particle of
good will see it; 8 while whoever
has done the smallest particle of
evil will see it.

100. THE SNORTING HORSES

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 By the snorting, panting horses,
2 striking sparks of fire with their
hooves, 3 as they gallop to make
raids at dawn, 4 and raising
clouds of dust, 5 forcing their
way into the midst of the enemy,
6 surely, man is ungrateful to his
Lord. 7 He himself bears witness
to that. 8 Surely, he is ardent in
his love of wealth. 9 Is he not
aware of the time when the
contents of the graves will be
brought out? 10 And the hearts’
contents shall be brought into
the open? 11 Surely, on that Day,
they will know that their Lord
had full knowledge of them all.

101. THE CLATTERER

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 The Clatterer! 2 What is the
Clatterer? 3 Would that you knew
what the Clatterer is! 4 [It is] a
Day when mankind shall be like
scattered moths 5 and the mount-
ains like tufts of carded wool.
6 Then, the one whose good
deeds weigh heavy on the scales,
7 will have a most pleasing life.
8 But as for him whose deeds are
light on the scales, 9 the Abyss
shall be his home. 10 What will
convey to you what this is like?
11 It is a blazing fire.

102. GREED FOR MORE AND MORE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Greed for more and more
distracted you [from God] 2 till
you reached the grave. 3 But you
will soon come to know. 4 But
you will soon come to know.
5 Indeed, were you to know the
truth with certainty, 6 you would
see the fire of Hell. 7 You would
see it with the eye of certainty.
8 Then on that Day you shall be
questioned about your worldly
favours.

103. THE PASSAGE OF TIME

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 I swear by the passage of time,
2 that man is surely in a state of
loss, 3 except for those who
believe and do good deeds and
exhort one another to hold
fast to the Truth, and who
exhort one another to stead-
fastness.

104. THE BACKBITER

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Woe to every fault-finding
back-biter, 2 who amasses
wealth, counting it over,
3 thinking that his wealth will
make him live forever. 4 By no
means! He shall surely be cast
into the crushing torment.
5 Would that you understood
what that crushing torment is
like. 6 It is a Fire kindled by God.
7 Reaching right into the hearts
of men, 8 it closes in on them
from every side 9 in towering
columns.

105. THE ELEPHANT

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Have you not seen how your
Lord dealt with the people of the
elephant? 2 Did He not foil their
strategy 3 and send against them
flocks of birds, 4 which pelted
them with clay stones? 5 Thus
He made them like stubble
cropped by cattle?

106. QURAYSH

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 For the security of the Quraysh: 2 their security in their winter and summer journeys. 3 So let them worship the Lord of this House, 4 who provided them with food lest they go hungry and saved them from fear.

107. SMALL THINGS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Have you seen one who denies the Day of Judgement? 2 Who turns away the orphan, 3 and who does not urge the feeding of the poor? 4 So woe to those who pray 5 but whose hearts are not in their prayer. 6 Those who do things only to be seen by others. 7 Who are uncharitable even over very small things.

108. ABUNDANCE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 We have given you abundance. 2 Pray to your Lord and sacrifice to Him alone. 3 It is the one who hates you who has been cut off.

109. THOSE WHO DENY THE TRUTH

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Say, ‘You who deny the Truth,
2 I do not worship what you
worship. 3 You do not worship
what I worship. 4 I will never
worship what you worship. 5 You
will never worship what I
worship. 6 You have your
religion and I have mine.’

110. HELP

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 When God’s help and victory
come, 2 and you see people
entering God’s religion in
multitudes, 3 then glorify your
Lord with His praise and
seek His forgiveness. He is
always ready to accept repent-
ance.

111. TWISTED FIBRE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 May the hands of Abu Lahab
perish, may he be ruined.
2 Neither his wealth nor his gains
will avail him. 3 He shall soon
enter a Blazing Fire, 4 and also
his wife who carries the fuel,
5 with a rope of twisted fibre
round her neck.

112. ONENESS

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Say, 'He is God, the One, 2 God,
the Self-sufficient One. 3 He does
not give birth, nor was He born,
4 and there is nothing like Him.'

113. DAYBREAK

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Say, 'I seek refuge in the Lord
of the daybreak 2 from the evil
of what He has created, 3 from
the evil of darkness as it
descends, 4 from the evil of those
who blow on knots 5 and from
the evil of the envier when
he envies.'

114. PEOPLE

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

1 Say, 'I seek refuge in the Lord
of people, 2 the King of people,
3 the God of people, 4 from the
mischief of every sneaking whisperer,
5 who whispers into the hearts
of people, 6 from jinn and men.'

INDEX

Aaron, 6:84; 20:29-36, 90-94
'Abasa, S.80
Ablutions, 4:43; 5:6
Abraham, fulfilled God's commands, 2:124; and Ka'bah, 2:125-127; 3:96,97; not Jew nor Christian, 3:67; nor pagan, 3:95; rejects worship of heavenly bodies, 4:75-79; on life to the dead, 2:260; preaches to his people, 6:80-83; prays for father, 9:113-114; 26:86; sacrifice of son, 37:99-111; Angels visit him, 11:69-73; his prayer, 14:35-41; 26:83-87; a model, 16:120-123; safe in fire, 21:69
Abu Lahab (Father of Flame), 111:1-5;
'Ad people, 7:65-72; 11:50-60;25:38
Adam, creation, 2:30-34; fall, 2:35-39; 7:19-25; two sons (Abel and Cain), 5:27-31; tempted by Satan, 20:120-121
'*Adiyat*, S.100
Admonition, 87:9-13; 88:21 26
Adultery, 17:32; 26:2-3, 4-10
Ahmad, coming prophesied, 61:6
Ahqaf, S.46
Ahzab, S.33
A'la, S.87
'Alaq, S.96
Al 'Imran, S.3
An'am, S.6
Anbiya, S.21
Anfal, S.8
Angels, plea to God 2:30-34; Gabriel and Michael, 2:97-98; sent for warning to men, 16:2; on the Day of Judgement, 25:25; as messengers with wings, 35:1; pray for forgiveness for all on earth, 42:5; recording angels, 50:17-18,
Animals, 6:38; 16:5-8
'Ankabut, S.29
A'raf, S.7
'Asr, S.103

Badr (battle of), 3:13; 8:5-19, 42-48
Bakkah (Makkah), 3:96
Balad, S.90
Balance, 43:17; 55:7-9; 57:25; 101:6-9
Bani Isra'il, see *Isra*', S.17
Banu Nadir, 59:2-6
Baptism of God, 2:138
Baqarah, S.2
Bara'ah, see *Tawbah*, S.9
Barzakh, 23:100; 15:53; 55:20
Bayyinah, S.98
Believers, fear God, 3:102; to fear nothing else, 10:62; hold together, 3:103; enjoin right and forbid wrong, 3:104,110; protected by angels, 41:30-31; witnesses to fair dealing, 5:8; duties to God. 5:35; 66:8; described, 8:2-4; 9:71; 111-112; 10:104-106; 13:20-24,28-29; to be firm, 7:45; to obey and not lose heart, 8:46; not to be weary and fainthearted, 47:35; affection between their hearts, 8:63; protect each other, 9:71; rejoice in their (spiritual) bargain, 9:111; 61:10-11; to be with those true in word and deed, 9:119; to practice prayer and charity, 14:31; to say what is best, 17:53-55; to be heirs, to inherit Paradise, 23:10-11; not to despair or exult, 57:23; to make peace, 49:9; to avoid suspicion and spying, 49:12; to remember God in humility, 57:16; sincere lovers of truth and witnesses, 57:19; do what they say, 61:2-3; helpers to God's work, 61:14; trust in God, 44:13
Bequests, 2:180
Birds, 67:19
Burdens of others, none can bear, 6:164
Buruj, S.85

Cave of Thawr, 9:40
Cave, Companions of the, 18:9-22; 25-26
Certainty, 56:95
Charity, 2:110, 177, 195, 215, 219
Christ, *see* Jesus
Christians, 2:138-140; 5:14; nearest in love to Islam, 5:82-85
Cities overthrown, 69:9
Cleanliness, 4:43; 5:6
Commerce that will never fail, 35:29
Confederates, 33:9-20, 22:27
Consultation, mutual, 42:38
Courtesy, 4:86
Covetousness, 3:180; 4:32; 57:24
Cowardice, 3:122
Creation begins and repeated, 10:4, 27:64; 29:19-20; a new, 8:5: 14:48; for just ends, 15:85;

16:3; not for sport, 21:16-17; of man, 23:12-14; in six Days, 7:54, 32:4, 57:4; God commands 'Be' and it is, 2:117; 16:40, 36:82; 40:68; in true proportions, 39:5; of heaven and earth greater than creation of man, 40:57, 79:27; purpose of, 51:56-58
Criterion, 2:53; 8:29; 21:48-50; 25:1

Dabbah (of the Last Days), 27:82
Dahr, *see Insan*, S.76
David, 6:84; 21:78-80; 34:10-11; 38:17-26
Day, 7:54; 22:47; 32:4-5; 41:12, 70:4
Dead will be raised to life, 6:36
Death, by God's leave, 3:145
Dhariyat, S.51
Dhu al Kifl, 21:85; 38:48
Dhu al Nun (Jonah), 21:87-88; 68:48-50
Dhu al Qarnayn, 18:83-98
Discipline, 3:152; 61:4
Discord, incited by Evil, 41:36
Divorce, 2:228-232, 236-237, 241; 65:1-7
Dower, 2:229, 236-237; 4:4, 19-21, 25
Duha, S.93
Dukhan, S.44

Earth, will be change to a different Earth, 14:48. prepared for God's creatures, 15:19-20; 26:7; 77:25-28; spacious is God's Earth, 29:56; manageable for man, 67:15; convulsion of, a symbol, 99:1-6
Elephant, Companions of the, 105:1-5
Elias (Elijah), 6:85; 37:123-132
Elisha, 6:86; 38:48
Evil, 4:51-55, 123; 10:27-30; 26:221-226; 42:36-39; comes from ourselves, but good from God, 4:79; makes fools of men, 6:71; recompensed justly, 6:160; will destroy Evil, 19:83; will come to evil end, 30:10, deceives evil, 59:15-17; repel evil with good, 13:22; 23:96; 41:34
Eyes, ears, and skins will bear witness against sinners, 41:20-23

Faith, rejectors of, 2:6-7, 165-167; ransom not accepted, 5:36-37; lie against their own souls, 6:24; will see Truth in Hereafter, 6:28-30; hearts inclined to deceit, 6:113; taste evil result of conduct, 64:5-6; their way and worship repudiated, 109:1-6: signs of, 2:165, 285: sellers of, 3:77, 177
Fajr, S.89
Falaq, S.113
Falsehood perishes, 21:18; 51:8-11
Famines in Makkah, 23:75, 44:10
Fasting, 2:184-185, 187
Fate, man's fate on his own neck, 17:13
Fath, S.48
Fatihah, S.1
Fatir, S.35
Fear of God, what is, 2:2; as He should be feared, 3:102; command to People of the Book and Muslims, 4:131; piety and restraint (*taqwa*), 47:17; unseen, 67:12; of His displeasure, 70:27; righteousness, 74:56
Fil, S.105
Fire, parable, 2:17-18; mystic Fire of Moses, 20:10; God's gift, 56:72-73
Food, lawful and unlawful, 2:168, 172-173; 5:1,3,5, 87-88; 6:118-119, 121, 145-146; 16:114-118; less important than righteousness, 5:93
Forbidden, conduct, 6:151-152; 7:33; not things clean and pure, 7:32
Forgiveness, 2:109; 4:48, 110, 116; 57:21; duty of Believers, 42:37, 40; 45:14; Forgiveness, by Believers, for people of the Book, 2:109; by God, for sins other than joining gods with God, 4:48, 110, 116; hold to, and command the right, 7:199; God forgives all sins, 39:53; God forgives those who avoid great sins and shameful deeds, 53:32; be foremost in seeking, 57:21
Fraud, 83:1-6
Free will; no compulsion to believe, 10:99; Truth offered, to be accepted or rejected, 18:29; limited by God's Will, 74:56; 76:29-31, 81:28-29; just bias, 82:7
Friends, 3:28
Fruits and eating; 43:73; 47:15; 77:42-43
Furqan, S.25

Gabriel, 2:97, 98, 66:4
Gambling, 2:219; 5:90
Ghashiyah, S.88
God, Cherisher, 1:2; 6:164; Guardian Lord, 2:21-22; as

a Guardian on a Watchtower, 89:14; protector, 2:257; 3:150; 22:78; sets guardians over man, 6:61; Helper, 3:150; 4:45; 11:51; Creator of all, 2:29, 117; 6:73; creates and sustains all, 7:54; 11:6-7; 13:16-17; Lord of Bounties, 3:174; Merciful, 6:26; 5:74; 6:12, 54, 133; Most Kind, 9:117-118; Full of loving-kindness. 85:14; Beneficent, 52:28; His love bestowed on the Righteous, 19:96; Forgiving, 4:25, 26; 5:74; guides, 6:71, 88; 92:12; ordains laws and grants guidance, 87:3; calls to Home of Peace. 10:25

God, His favours: Gardens and Fruits, 6:141; cattle, 6:142; mercy after adversity, 10:21; traverse through land and sea, 10:22, in life and death, 10:31, 56; 22:6; Cherisher and Sustainer, 10:32, direction, healing, guidance, mercy, 10:57; gifts from heaven and earth. 14:32-33; numberless, 14:34; 16:18; cattle and things ye know not, 16:5-8; rain, corn, and fruit, 16:10-11; night and day, sun, moon, and stars, gifts from heaven and earth, 16:12-13; sea and ships, 16:14; 17:66; mountains, rivers, roads, 16:15-16; subjection of earth and sea, 22:65; blessings form heaven and earth, 23:17-22; long line of prophets, 23:23

God listens to the soul and makes man inherit the earth, 27:62; guides through darkness, winds as heralds, 27:63; originates and repeats creation, gives sustenance, 27:64; feeds creation, 29:60-62; sends rain and revives the earth, 29:63; made heaven and earth with all its produce, 31:10; subjected all things to your use, 31:20; 36:71-73; 45:12-13; His Mercy, gifts none can withhold, 35:2-3; life, grain, fruits, and springs, 36:33-35; earth and the heavens, 41:10-12; 51:47-48; accepts repentance and forgives, 42:25; listens and gives increase, 42:26-28; pearls and coral, 55:22; ships, 55:24; grants the need of every creature, 55:29, settles their affairs, 55:31; stream and flowing water, 67:30; given heaven's canopy its order and perfection, 79:27-28; night, its darkness and splendour, 79:29; expanse of the earth, its moisture pasture, and mountains, 79:30-33; orphan's shelter, 93:6; wanderer's guide, 93:7; satisfies need, 93:8; gives life and death, 3:156; 4:95; 15:23; takes the souls of men, 39:42

God, to Him go back all questions for decision, 3:109, 128; to Him tend all affairs, 42:53; to Him is the Goal, 53:42; to Him is the return of all, 96:8

God, His Unity, 2:163; 6:19; 16:22; One, not one in a Trinity, 5:72; nor one of two, 16:51; no begotten son, 2:116; 6:100; 10:68; nor consort nor daughters, 6:100-101; 16:57; no partners, 6:22-23, 136-137, 163

God, Wise, 4:26; 6:18; best Disposer of Affairs, 3:173; 73:9; Most High, Great, 4:34; 87:1; Irresistible, 6:18, 61; Doer of all He intends, 85:16; power, 2:284; 53:42-54; 85:12-16; Self-Sufficient, 6:133; Ready to appreciate service, 14:5; 35:30; 64:7, Most Forbearing, 2:225, 235, 263; 3:155; Wisest of Judges, 95:8; Justice, 21:47; never unjust, 4:40; Best of Planners, 3:54, 13:42; will separate evil from good, 3:179; His Wrath, 1:7; 7:97-99; quick in retribution, but forgiving and merciful, 7:167; 13:6; Swift in taking account, 24:39; Best *to* decide, 10:109; Best of those who show mercy, 13:109, 118; Most Merciful of those who show mercy, 7:151; 12:64, 92; 21:83; decision with Him, 42:10; Exalted in power, Wise, 31:9; 39:1; Free of all wants, 31:26; 35:15; Worthy of all praise, 31:26; Ample in forgiveness, 63:32; Living, 2:255; 40:65; Eternal, Command rests with Him, 6:57; 13:41;

God, Lord of the Throne of Glory Supreme, 9:129; 23:86; 40:15; 85:15; Lord of the Throne of Honour, 23:16; Lord of the mystery of heaven and earth, 16:77;

Lord of Power, 51:58; Lord of the two East's and the two West's, 55:17; 70:40; 73:9, Lord of the Dawn, 93:1; Lord of the Ways of Ascent, 70:3; in heaven and on earth, 43:84; to Him belong the End and the Beginning

God, changes not His Grace unless people change themselves, 7:53; 13:11; will not mislead, 9:115; suffers not reward to be lost, witnesses all things, 10:61; understands the finest mysteries, 67:14; nature of, 2:255; 3:2-3, 6, 18; 94:1-3; close to man, 2:186; ever near, 34:50; The Truth, 20:114; to Him belong the Forces of heavens and earth, 47:7; decrees unalterable, 6:34; 18:27; His word finds fulfillment, 6:115; no vision can grasp Him, 6:103; most beautiful names, 7:180. 17:110; 20:8; 59:24;

God, worship of, 2:114, 152; to be worshipped and trusted, 11:123; sincere devotion due to Him, 39:3-11; 40:14; we trust in Him, 67:29: His promise is true, 4:122; 14:47; seek his Face, 6:52; 18:28; dedicate life to Him, 6:162; call on Him humbly, with fear and longing, 7:55-56; forget Him not, 59:19; to God, turn thy attention, 94:8; all Creation speaks of Him, 13:12-13; 17:44; 24:41-46; 57:1; praise and glory to Him, 1:1; 17:111; 30:17-19; His words inexhaustible, 18:109; 31:27; rejecters of, will not injure God, 47:32; rejecter of, described, 50:24-26; who are His servants, 25:63-76; those most devoted to God, 92:17-21; claim to exclusive friendship of, condemned, 62:6; 'so please God', 18:23-24

Goliath, 2:249-251

Good for evil, 23:96; 28:54, 41:34

Gospel, 5:47

Hadid, S.57

Hajj, *see* Pilgrimage

Hajj, S.22

Haman, 28:6, 38; 29:39; 40:36-37

Ha Mim, S.41

Hands and feet will bear witness against sinners, 36:65

Haqqah, S.69

Harut, 2:102

Hashr, S.59

Heaven, as gardens, in nearness to God, rivers flowing, eternal home, 3:15, 198; Companions pure and holy, cool shades, 4:57 for righteous deeds, 4:124; truthful to profit from truth; gardens with flowing rivers; eternal home; Gardens, eternity, 9:21-22; Gardens, mansions, Good Pleasure of God, 9:72; Gardens, fountains, peace and security, no lurking sense of injury, nor fatigue, 15:45-48; Gardens of eternity, rivers, adornments, thrones, 18:31; 22:23; Gardens of Eternity, no vain discourse, peace, sustenance, 19:61-63; Gardens as hospitable homes, 32:19; Gardens of eternity; adornments; sorrow removed; no toil or weariness, 35:33-35; joy; associates; cool shade; thrones; all they call for; Peace, 36:55-58; fruits; honour and dignity; gardens; thrones; cup; chaste women, 37:41-49; final return, gardens of eternity, ease, fruit and drink, chaste women; 38:49-52; lofty mansions, rivers, 39:20, garden, peace, eternity, angels singing, 39:73-75; meads of gardens; all they wish for; Bounty, 42:22; no fear nor grief; Gardens; rejoicing; dishes and goblets of gold; eternity; satisfaction, 43:68-73; security, gardens and springs, adornments, companions, fruit, no further death; supreme achievement, 44:51-57, parable of garden, rivers, Grace from God, 47:15; Garden; peace and security; more than all They wish; in Our Presence, 50:31-35; Garden, happiness, food and drink; Fulfilment of heart's desires; Gardens; Companions; Cup; No vanity or Untruth, 78:31-35; Garden, 79:41; Thrones; In their faces the beaming Brightness of Bliss, Pure Wine; Spring, 88:22-28, Joy; Striving; Garden; no Vanity; Spring;

Throne; Cushions; Carpets, 88:8, 16; Rest and Satisfaction, coming back to God; well-pleased and well-pleasing to Him

Hell, skins roasted and renewed, 4:56; of no profit are hoards and arrogant ways, 7:48; for such as took religion to be amusement, and were deceived by the life of the world, 7:51; filled with jinn's and men, 11:119; drink, boiling fetid water, 14:16-17; Death will come, but will not die, 14:17; fetters, liquid pitch, faces covered with Fire. 14:49-50; garment of Fire, boiling water, maces of iron, 22:19-22; Blazing fire, furious. 25:11-12; Sinners bound together; will plead for destruction, but the destruction will be oft-repeated 25:13-14; those who deny the truth led in crowds, previously warned; abode of the arrogant; 39:71-72; dispute and self-recrimination, 40:47-50; to dwell for aye; punishment not lightened; overwhelming despair. 43:74; God not unjust; sinners unjust themselves; 43:76; capacity unlimited, 50:30, Sinners known by their marks, 55:41; Hell, which they denied; boiling water, 55:43-44; Blast of Fire, Boiling Water, Shades of Black Smoke, 56:42-44; drawing in its breath, bursting with fury, 67:6-8; record in left hand; vain regrets, 69:25-29; seize him, bind him, burn him, make him march in a chain, 69:30-37; naught doth it permit to endure, and naught doth it leave alone, 74:26-29; Over it are Nineteen, 74:30-31; a place of ambush; destination for transgressors; to dwell therein for ages; taste there nothing cool nor drink, save boiling fluid, or intensely cold, 78:21-25; Day when hellfire shall be placed in full view, 79:35-39; stain on sinners' hearts; Light of God veiled from them; enter the Fire, 83:14-16; faces humiliated, enter the Fire; drink boiling water; food bitter Dari, 88:2-7; they will neither die nor live, 20:74; 87:13; to it are seven Gates, 15:44, is it enternal? 11:107; who will pass over it? 19:71; 102:6

Hereafter, not a falsehood, 6:31; man must meet God, 6:31; Home in the, 6:32; Wrath of God, 6:40-41; 12:107; Home of Peace, 6:127; wrongdoers will not prosper, 6:135; prophets and those to whom Message was sent will he questioned, 7:6; deeds will be balanced, 7:8-9; no intercession for those who disregarded Hereafter, 7:53; Fire and Garden endure, except as God wills, 11:107-108, the arrogant and the weak in the, 14:21; wrongdoers will ask for respite, 14:44-46; Home of the, 28:83; 29:64, better than silver and gold, 43:33-35; denied by men, 50:12-14; better than the present, 93:4

Hijr, S.15

Hud, 7:65-72; 11:50-60; 26:123-140

Hud, S.11

Hujurat, S.49

Humazah, S.104

Humility, 4:42-43; 7:161; 57:16

Hunayn, 9:25

Hypocrites, do not believe in God and the Last Day. 2:8; deceive themselves, 2:9; disease in their hearts, 2:10; make mischief, 2:11-12, fools and mockers, 2:13-15; barter guidance for error, 2:16; 3:167-168; resort to evil; turn away from Revelation; come when seized by misfortune; to be kept clear of and admonised, 4:60-63

Ibrahim, see Abraham

Ibrahim, S.14

'Iddah, 2:228, 231-232, 234-235; 33:49

Idris, 19:56-57; 21:85

Ikhlas S.112

'Illiyun, 83:18-21,

Immorality, 4:15-18

'Imran, family of; 3:35

Infitar, S.82

Inheritance, 2:180, 240; 4:7-9, 11-12

Injury, forgiveness or self-defence, 42:39

Insan, see *Dahr*, S.76

Inshiqaq, S.84

Inshirah, see *Sharh*, S.94

Inspiration, 17:85-87; 40:15, 42:3, 7, 51-53

Intercession, 6:51, 70; 10:3; 19:87; 39:44

Iqra', see '*Alaq*, S.96
Iram, 89:7
Isaac, 6:84; 21:72; 37:112-113
Islam, 6:14, 163; 39:12; 9:100
Isma'il, 2:125-129; 6:86; 19:54-55; 21:85
Isra', S.17
Israel, Children of, 2:40-86; favours, 2:47-53; 2:60, 122; 45:16-17; contumacy, 2:54-59, 61, 63-74; their relations with Muslims, 2:75-79; their arrogance, 2:80, 88, 91; their Covenants, 2:83-86, 93, 100; 5:12; twice warned, 17:4-8; delivered from enemy, 20:80-82; given Book and Leaders, 32:23-25; 40:53-54; the learned among them knew the Qur'an to be true, 26:197

Jacob, 2:132-133, 6:84; 19:49; 21:72
Jathiyah, S.45
Jesus, a righteous prophet, 6:85; birth, 3:45-47; 19:22-23; messenger to Israel, 3:49-51; disciples, 3:52-53; 5:111-115; taken up, 3:55-58; 4:157-159; like Adam, 3:59; not crucified, 4:157; sent with Gospel, 5:46; not son of God, 9:30; Message and miracles, 5:19:30-33; prays for Table of viands, 5:114; disciples as God's helpers, 61:14; as a Sign, 23:50; 43:61; prophesied Ahmad. 61:6
Jews, and Christians, 2:140; 4:153-161, 171; 5:18; See also Israel, Children of
Jinn, S.72
Jinn, 6:100; 15:27; 34:41; 46:29-32; 55:15
Job, 6:84; 21:83-84; 38:41-44
John (the Baptist), see Yahya
Jonah or Jonas, or (Yunus), 4:163; 6:86; 10:98; 37:139-148; 21:87
Joseph, 6:84; his story, 12:4-101
Judgment, must come, 6:51; 6:128; will come suddenly, 7:187; 36:48-50; as the twinkling of an eye, 16:77; 54:50; Hour known to God alone, 33:63, 67:26; 79:42-46; is near, 54:1-5; deniers of, 107:1-7
Judgment Day, full recompense only then, 3:185; earth changed, and men fathered; Book of Deeds, 18:47-49; men surge like waves; trumpet blown; those who deny the truth will see and hear, 18:99-101; sectarian differences to be solved; Distress for lack of Faith, 19:37-39; rejecters of the message will bear a grievous burden, 20:100-101; trumpet will sound; sinful in terror; interval will seem short, 20:102-104; they will follow the Caller; trump of their feet; all sounds humbled; 20:108; no Intercession except by permission, 20:109; no fear for the righteous, 20:112; rejecters will be raised up blind, 20:124-127; the Good will suffer no grief, 21:97-103; heavens rent as under; angels sent down; Dominion wholly for God, 25:25-26; wrongdoer's regrets, 25:27-30; guilty in despair, no Intercessor, 30:12-13; justice done, 36:51-54; joy and peace for the Good, 36:55-58; retribution for evil, 37:37-39; felicity for servants of God, 37:40-61; Tree of Zaqqum, 37:62-68; trumpet; all in heaven and earth will swoon; second trumpet, renewed Earth will shine with God's Glory; recompense, 39:67-70; sudden; friends will be foes, except the righteous, 43:66-67; no fear on God's devotees, 43:68-69; dealers in falsehood to perish; righteous to obtain Mercy, 45:27-35; not to be averted; Angels will bear the Throne; nothing hidden; Good and Evil recompensed, 69:13-37; sky like molten brass; no friend will ask after friend; no deliverance for evil, 70:8, 18; sky cleft asunder, 73:17-18; trumpet; Day of Distress for those without Faith, 74:8-10; stars become dim; messengers collect; sorting out, 77:7-15; woe to Rejecters of Truth, 77:29-50; sorting out; Trumpet; heavens opened; mountains vanish; 78:17-20; Spirit and Angels stand forth; Day of Reality, 78:38-40; commotion and agitation, 79:6-9; single Cry, 79:13-14; Deafening Noise; no one for another; some Faces beaming; some dust stained, 80:33-42; sun, stars, mountains, outer

nature change; souls sorted out; World on High unveiled, 81:1-14; sky cleft asunder; stars and Oceans scattered; Graves turned upside down; each soul will know its deeds, 82:1-5; no soul can do aught for another, 82:17-19
Judi, Mount, 11:44
Jumu'ah, S.62
Justice, 4:58, 65, and 105, 135, 7:29

Ka'bah, built by Abraham, 2:125-127; no killing of game, 5:94-96
Kafirun, S.109
Kafur, Cup mixed with, 76:5
Kahf, S.18
Kawthar (Fount of Abundance), 108:1-2
Kawthar, S.108
Keys of heavens and earth, 39:63; 42:12
Khandaq, battle, 33:9-20
Kindred, rights of, 2:83, 177 4:7-9, 36; 8:41; 16:90; 17:26; 24:22; 42:23
Lahab. see *Masad*, S.111
Layl, S.92
Life of this world, 6:32; 57:20
Life sacred, 17:33
Light, manifest, 4:174; and Darkness, 6:1; parable of, 24:35-36; goes before and with Believers, 57:12-15; 66:8; provided by God, that Believers may walk straight, 57:28; of God, veiled from those who deny the truth, 88:15
Loan, beautiful, to God, 2:245, and 57:11, 18; 64:17; 78:20
Loss (spiritual), 39:15
Lote tree, 34:16; 53:14-18; 56:28
Luqman, 31:12; his teaching, 31:12-19
Luqman, S.31
Lut (Lot), 6:86, 7:80-84; 11:77-83

Ma'arij, S.70
Madinah, 33:9-27
Madyan, 7:85-93; 11:84-95; 29:36-37
Magians (Majus), 12:17
Ma'idah, S.5
Makkah, Bakkah, 3:96; mystic relation to Prophet, 90:1-4; city of security, 95:3
Man, inherator on earth, 2:30; 6:165; tested by God, 2:155; 3:186; duty, 4:1-36; 17:23-39; 29:8-9; created from clay, for a term, 6:2; 15:26; called to account, 6:44; will return to God, 6:60, 72; 10:45-46; personal responsibility, 6:164; ungrateful, 7:10; 36:45-47; warned against Satan, 7:27; knows of God, but misled by Evil, 7:172-175; and family life, 7:189-190; limited Free Will, 10:99; behaviour in and out of trouble, 10:12; 11:9-11; 16:53-55; God's spirit breathed into him, 15:29; lowly in origin, but blessed with favours, 16:4-8, 32:7-9; 35:11; to be judged by his record, 17:71; his physical growth, 22:5, 23:12-14; 40:67; death and resurrection, 23:15-16; tongues, hands, and feet will bear witness against men, 24:24; made from water, 25:54; relationships of lineage and marriage, 25:54; should submit Self to God, 31:22; not two hearts in one breast, 33:4; to worship God, 39:64-66; misfortunes, due to his deeds, 42:30, angels note his doings, 50:17-18, 23; his growth and activity depend on God, 56:57-74; to be created again after death in new forms, 56:60-61; riches and family may be a trial, 64:14-15; created and provided for by God, 67:23-24; 74:12-15; is impatient, 70:19-21; guilty of sins, 89:17-20; created into toil and struggle, 90:4; gifted with faculties, 90:8-10; strives for diverse ends, 92:4-11; created in best of moulds, 95:4
Mankind, one nation, 2:213; 10:19; created from single pair, 4:1; 39:6; 49:13
Manners, about entering houses, 24:27-29; in the home, 24:58-61; among the community, 49:11; in assemblies, 58:11
Marriage, with those who deny the truth, 2:221, to how many, lawful, 4:3; dower not to be taken back (in case of divorce), 4:20-21; prohibited degrees, 4:22-24; it' no means to wed free believing women, 4:25; if breach feared, two arbiters to be appointed, 4:35; if wife fears cruelty or desertion, amicable settlement, 4:128: turn not away from a woman, 4:129; with chaste ones among People of the Book,

5:6; of adulterers, 24:3; to those who are poor, 24:32; those who cannot afford marriage, to keep themselves chaste until God gives them means, 24:33; Prophet's Consorts, 33:28-29, 50-52; without cohabitation, no *'iddah* on divorce, 33:49; conditions for the Prophet, 33:50-52;
Mary (mother of Jesus], birth, 3:35-37; annunciation of Jesus, 3:42-51, 4:156; 19:16-21; in child birth, 19:23-26; brought the babe to her people, 19:27-33; guarded her chastity, 21:91; 66:12
Maryam, S.19
Masad, S.111
Ma'un, S.107
Measure and weight, give full, 17:35; 83:1
Miracles, see Signs of God
Mischief on land and sea, 30:41; 93:1-5
Monasticism disapproved, 57:27
Months, number of, 9:35-37
Moses, and his people, 2:51-61; advises Israelites, 5:23-29; guided by God, 6:84; and Pharaoh, 7:103-137; 10:75-92; 11:96-99; resists idol worship, 7:138-141; sees the Glory on the Mount, 7:142-145; reproves his people for calf-worship, and prays for them, 7:148-156; his people, 7:159-162; nine clear Signs, 7:133; 17:101; to the junction of the two Seas, 18:60-82; his call, 19:51-53; 20:9-56; 28:29-35; his childhood, mother, and sister, 20:38-40; 28:7-13; converts Egyptian magicians, 20:70-73; 26:46-52; indignant at calf-worship, 20:86-98; and the mystic Fire, 27:7-14; 28:29-35; his mishap in the City, 28:14-21; in Madyan, 28:22-28; guided to straight way, 37:114-122; Books of, 53:36; 87:19; vexed by his people, 61:5
Mosques, 9:17-19, 28
Mountains, 20:105-107; 21:31; 31:10
Muddaththir, S.74
Muhammad, the Prophet, his mission, 7:158; 48:8-9, respect due to messenger, 2:104; 4:46; no more than a messenger, 3:144; gentle, 3:159; sent as favour to Believers, 3:164; 4:170; and to People of the Book, 5:21; a mercy to Believers, 9:61; mercy to all creatures, 21:107; his work, 3:164; 4:70-71; 6:107; not mad or possessed, 7:184; 68:2; 81:22; warner, 7:184, 188; 15:89; his teaching, 11:2-4; 12:108; 34:46-50; God is witness to his mission, 13:43; 29:52; 46:8; to invite and argue, in ways most gracious, 16:125-128; inspired, 18:110; 63:2-18; mocked, 25:41-42; 34:7-8; asks no reward, 25:57; 34:47; 38:86; 42:23; his duty, 27:91-93; 30:30; his household (consorts), 33:28-34, 50-53, 55, 59; 64:1, 3-6; close to Believers, 33:6; beautiful pattern of conduct, 33:21; seal of the Prophets, 33:40; universal Messenger to men, 34:28; fealty to him is fealty to God, 48:10, 18; Messenger of God, 48:29; resist him not, 58:20-22; foretold by Jesus, 61:6, foretold by Moses, 46:10, his Religion to prevail over all religion, 61:9; unlettered, 7:157; 62:2; leads from darkness to light, 65:11; to strive hard, 66:9; exalted standard of character, 68:4: not a poet or soothsayer, 69:40-43; devoted to prayer, 73:1-8, 20; 74:3; witness, 73:15-16; and the blind man, 80:1-10; saw the Angel of Revelation, 53:4-18; 81:22-25; to adore God and bring himself closer to him, 96:19; rehearsing scriptures, 98:2
Muhammad, S.47
Mujadilah, S.58
Mulk, S.67
Mu'min, see *Ghafir*, S.40
Mu'minun, S.23
Mumtahinah, S.60
Munafiqun, S.63
Murder, 2:178-179; 5:35
Mursalat, S.77
Muslim men and women, befitting conduct, 33:35-36
Muzzammil, S.73

Naba', S.78
Nahl, S.16
Najm, S.53
Names, most beautiful, of God, 7:180, 17:110; 20:8; 59:24
Naml, S.27
Nas, S.114
Nasr, S.110
Nature declares God's praises, 24:41-44; 50:6-11;

shows God's goodness, and that His Promise is true, 78:6-16
Naziyat, S.79
News, to be tested, 4:83
Niggards condemned, 17:29; 47:38
Night as a symbol, 79:29, 92:1; 93:2
Night of Destiny, 97:1-5
Nisa, S.4
Noah, 6:84; 7:59-64; 10:71-73; unrighteous son not saved, 11:45-47; Wife unrighteous, 66:10
Nuh, S.71
Nur, S.24

Oaths, 2:224-227
Obedience, 3:132
Obligations to be fulfilled, 5:1
Orphans, 2:220; 4:2, 6, 10, 127; 17:34

Pairs, in all creatures, 13:3; 31:10
Parables, man who kindled a lire, 2:17-18; rain-laden cloud 2:19-20; goatherd, 2:171; hamlet in ruins, 2:259; grain of corn, 2:261; hard, barren rock, 2:264; fertile garden, 2:265-266; rope, 3:103, frosty wind, 3:117; dog who lolls out his tongue, 7:176; undermined sandcliff, 9:109-110; rain and storm, 10:24; blind and deaf, 11:24; garden of joy, 13:35; ashes blown about by wind, 14:18; goodly trees, with roots, branches, and fruit, 14:24-25; evil tree, 14:26; slave versus man liberally favoured, 16:75; dumb man versus one who commands justice, 16:76; women who untwists her yarn, 16:92, City favoured but ungrateful, 16:112-113; two men, one proud of his possessions and the other absorbed in God, 18:32-44; this life like rain, pleasant but transitory. 18:45-46; fall from Unity, like being snatched up by birds or carried off by winds, 22:31; a fly, 22:73; Light, 24:35-36; mirage, 24:39; depths of darkness, 24:40; spider, 29:41; partners, 30:28; Companions of the City, 36:13-32;one master and several masters, 39:29; Garden promised to the Righteous with four kinds of rivers, 47:15; seed growing, 48:29; rain and physical growth, 57:20; mountain that humbles itself; 59:21; donkey, 62:51; if stream of water be lost, 67:30; People of the Garden, 68:17-33
Parents, kindness to, 17:23; 29:8
'Partners' of God, a falsehood, 10:34-35
Patience and perseverance, 2:45, 153; 3:186, 200; 10:109; 11:115
"Peace," the greeting of the Righteous, 7:46; 10:10; 14:23:36:58
Peace, incline towards, 8:61
Peace, *salam*, meaning, 19:62
Peace, Sakinah, Tranquility, 11:26, 40; 48:4, 18, 26
Pearls well guarded, 52:24; 56:23
Pen, 68:1; 96:4-5
Penalty for sin, 3:188; 6:15-16; 10:50-53. Persecution with Fire, 85:1-11
Personal responsibility, 4:164; 10:30: 14:51:53:38-41
Pharaoh, cruelty, 2:49; drowned, 2:50, people of, 14:41-42; dealings with Moses, 7:103-137; 10:75-92; see Moses; body saved, on account of repentance, 10:90-92; denies God, 28:38; 79:24; a man from his People confesses Faith, 40-28-44; arrogant to the Israelites, 44:17-33; wife righteous, 66:11; sin and disobedience, 69:9; 73:16
Pilgrimage, 2:158, 196-203; 3:97; 5:2; 22:26-33
Piling up, 102:1-4
Prayer, 1:1-7; 2:238-239; 3:8, 26-27; be steadfast in, 2:110, during travel, or in danger, 4:101-104; due to God alone, 13:14-15
Prayers, the five canonical, 11:114; 17:78-79; 20:130; 30:17-18; why all prayers not answered, 42:27
Precautions in danger, 4:71
Prisoners of War, 8:67-71
Prohibited Degrees in marriage, 4:22-24
Property, 2:188; 4:5, 29; to be distributed equitably, 59:7-9
Prophets, 2:253; continuous line, 23:23-50, 57:26-27; covenants from, 3:81; 33:7-8; never false to their trusts, 3:161; rejected, 3:184; 6:34; 25:37, 34:45; 51:52-55; slain, 3:183; all to be believed in, 4:150-

152, to give account, 5:109; mocked, 6:10; 13:32; 15:11; 21:41; why sent, 6:48, 131; 14:4-6; had enemies, 6:112; 25:31; rehearse God's Signs, 7:35-36; sent to every people, 10:47; 16:36; had families, 13:38; human, but guided, 14:10-12; persecuted and threatened, 14:13; witnesses against their people, 16:89; and Messengers, meaning, 19:51; one brotherhood, 23:52-54; some named, some not, 40:78
Prophet's Consorts, extra responsibilities and duties, 33:28-34; who are to be, 33:50-52, respect due to them, 33:53-55; respect due to Prophet's Consorts and believing men and women, 33:56-58; Prophet's wives and daughters and all believing women to be modest, 33:59-62; Prosperity (spiritual) 87:4-15; success, 91:9-10
Publicity versus secrecy, 4:148
Punishment, for man's arrogance and rebellion, 96:15-18, abiding - for wilful rebellion, but not after repentance, nor for minor sins, 79:37

Qadr, S.97
Qaf, S.50
Qalam, S.68
Qamar, S.54
Qari'ah, S.101
Qarun, Korah, 28:76-82; 29:39
Qasas, S.28
Qiblah, 2:142-145, 149-150
Qiyamah, S.75
Quran, Message, 4:82, 6:19; cannot be produced by other than divine agency, 2:23; 10:38; 11:13; 17:89; verses, fundamental and allegorical, 3:7; 11:1; God is witness, 6:19; God's revelation, 6:92; 7:105-107; 27:6; 45:2; follow it and do right, 6:155; respect and attention due to, 7:204-206; Book of Wisdom, 10:1; 31:2; 36:2; in Arabic, 12:2; 13:37; described, 13:31, 36-37; makes things clear, 15:1; 25:33; not to be made into shreds, 15:91; purpose of revelation, 16:64-65; language pure Arabic, 16:103; good news and warning, 17:9-10; and those who deny the truth, 17:45-47; healing and mercy, 17:82; explains similitude's, 17:89; 18:54; 39:27; no crookedness therein, 18:1-2; carries own evidence, 29:47-49, 51; guide and mercy, 31:3; Truth from God, 32:3; 35:31; beautiful Message consistent with itself, 39:23; instructs mankind, 39:41, 80:11-12; no falsehood can approach it, 41:42; same Message to earlier prophets, 41:43; 43:44-45; not sent to worldly leaders; 43:31-32; seek earnestly to understand, 47:24, admonish with, 50:45; taught by God, 55:1-2; to be received with humility, 59:21; how to be read and studied, 2:121; 75:16-18; in books of honour and dignity; 80:13-16; Message to all the Worlds, 81:26-29, those who deny the truth reject it, 84:20-25; Tablet Preserved, 85:21-22; See also Book, and Revelation
Quraysh, S.106

Ra'd, S.13
Rahman, S.55
Raiment of righteousness is best, 7:26
Rain, God's gift, 56:68-70
Ramadan, 2:185
Religion, no compulsion in, 2:256
Repentance, with amendment, accepted, 6:54,42:25
Resurrection, 16:38-40; 17:49-52
Retaliation disapproved, 5:45
Revelation, doubts solved, 2:23; of Moses and Jesus, 2:87; abrogated or forgotten, 2:106; guidance, 3:73; to Prophet and those before him, 5:48; Word that distinguishes Good from Evil, 86:11-14; do not entertain doubt about, 6:114; 11:17; purpose of, 7:2, 203; in stages, 16:101; through the Holy Spirit, 16:102-103; 26:192-199; to be proclaimed, 96:1; nature of, 41:2-4, 6-8; 69:50-51; 81:15-21; See also Book, and Quran
Revile not false gods, 6:108
Reward, without measure, 3:27; 39:10; better than deed deserves, 27:84;

30:39; according to best of deeds, and more, 24:38; 29:7; 39:35; for good, no reward other than good, 55:60
Righteous, company of the, 4:69; shall inherit the earth, 21:105; described, 51:15-19; 76:5-12
Righteousness, 2:177, 207-208, 212
Rum, S.30

Saba', S.34
Saba', 27:22; 34:15-21,
Sabbath, transgressors of, 7:163-166; made strict, 16:124
Sabians, 2:26, 5:69; 22:17
Sacrifice, 22:34-37
Sad, S.38
Safa and Marwah, 2:158
Saff, S.61
Saffat, S.37
Sajdah, S.32
Salih, 7:73-79; 11:61-68; 26:141-159; 27:45-53
Salsabil, 76:18
Samiriy, 20:85, 20:95-97
Satan, 2:36; 4:117-120; 24:21; excites enmity and hatred, 5:91; resist his suggestions, 7:200-201; deceives, 8:48; reproaches own followers, 14:22;evil spirit, rejected, accursed, 3:36; 15:17; 15:34; 16:98;has no authority over Believers, 16:99-100; suggests vanity, 22:52-53; is an enemy, 35:6; 36:60
Scandal, 24:19; 104:1
Scriptures, people of the, 2:62; kept pure and holy, 98:2
Secrecy, when permissible, 4:114; in counsels, disapproved, 58:7-10
Sects and divisions disapproved, 30:32, 42:13-14; 43:64-65, 45:17, 28
Seed, grows by God's providence, 56:63-67
Shameful things to be shunned, 7:28
Shams, S.91
Ship, sailing of, as a Sign, 2:164
Shu'ara', S.26
Shu'ayb, 7:85-93; 11:84-95; 29:36-37
Shura, S.42
Signs of God, demanded by those without knowledge, clear to those with Faith, 2:118; in the creation of the heavens and the earth, 2:164; 3:190; made clear, that men may consider, 2:219-220; day and night as Signs, 17:12; in nature and all creation, 10:5-6; 30:20-27; 45:3-6; self evident Signs, the Book, 29: 49-51; winds and ships, 30:46; 42:32-35; ships, 31:31; the Night, sun and moon, 36:37-40; the Ark through the Flood, and similar ships, 36:41-44; in this life, 39:59; rejecters are deluded, 40:63; rain and revived Earth, 41:39-40; in the farthest regions of the earth, and in their own souls, 41:59; no special Sign (miracle) given, 6:109; 10:20; 8:7
Sijjin, 88:7-9
Sin, 4:30-32, 36-39, 107-112, 116; God forgives all sins, 39:53
Sinai, 19:52; 95:2
Sinners, 23:63-77; 26:200-209; 83:29-36; their hearing, sight, and skins will bear witness, 41:20-23
Slander, 11:79; 24:23; 68:11-12
Solomon, 2:102; 6:84; 21:79, 81-82; and the ants, 27:18-19; and the Hoopoe, 27:22-26; and the Queen of Saba', 27:22-44
Son, adopted, 33:4-5
Soul, burden not greater than it can bear, 2:286; 7:42; 23:62; responsibility, 3:30; 74:38; justly dealt with, 16:111; taste of death, 21:35; enters heaven, not body, 89:27-30
Spendthrifts condemned, 17:26-29; 25:67
Spirit, the, 70:4, n. 5677; 78:38; 97:4; the Holy, God strengthened Jesus with, 2:87, 253; God's, breathed into man, 15:29; of inspiration, 17:85-86; God strengthens Believers with, 58:22
Stars, 7:54; 16:12, 16; 22:18; 37:6-10
Striving, 9:20, 81; 22:78
Suffering, adversity, and prosperity, 7:94-96
Sun, 91:1
Superstitions, 5:103; 6:138-140, 143-144
Sustenance, literal and figurative, 10:59, 16:73, 19:62,42:12; 51:57-58,67:21

Taghabun, S.64
Ta Ha, S.20
Tahrim, S.66
Takathur, S.102
Takwir, S.81
Talaq, S.65,
Taqwa, meaning, 2:2, 59:18-19

Tariq, S.86
Tatfif, see *Mutaffifin*, S.83
Tawbah, S.9
Term appointed, for every people, 7:34; 10:49; 15:4-5; 16:61; 20:129
Testing, by God, 3:154, and 34:21
Thamud, 7:73-79; 11:61-68
Theft, punishment, 5:38-39
Those who deny the truth, plot in vain, 8:30; despise revelation, 8:31; challenge a Penalty, 8:32-35; prayers empty, 8:35; spend for wrong purposes, 8:36; past forgiven; if they repent, 8:38; 9:11; break covenants, 8:56; will not frustrate the godly, 8:60-61; protect each other, 8:73; described, 9:73-78; 14:3, will wish they had believed, 15:2; will bear double burdens, 16:25; to be covered with shame, 16:27; dispute vainly, 18:56-57; their efforts wasted, 18:102-106; their arrogance, 19:73-82; 35:43, deeds like mirage, 24:39; as in depths of darkness, 24:40; mutual recriminations at Judgement, 34:31-33: self-glory and separatism, 38:2-14; dispute about the Signs of God, 40:4-6, hate truth, 43:78
Time, 76:1, 103:1-3;
Tin, S.95
Traffic and Trade, 4:29
Travel through the earth, 6:11; 22:46
Treasures of God, 6:50; 6:59; 11:31; 15:21
Treaties, 11:1-4; 11:7-10
Trials, 2:214-218
Trumpet, on Day of Judgement, 6:73
Trust offered to Heavens, earth, and Mountains, undertaken by Man, 33:72-73; Trusts, 4:58; 8:27
Truth, 23:70-71, 90; Rejecters of, 77:1-50; 98:1-6

Uhud, lessons of, 3:121-128, 140-180
Ummah, 2:143-144
‘Umrah, 2:196
Unity, 2:163; 6:19; 92:1-4
Usury, 2:275-276; 2:278-280; 3:130
‘Uzayr, 9:30
‘Uzza, 53:19

Vain discourse to be avoided, 6:68

Wadd, 71:23
Waqi’ah, S.56
Warning before destruction, 17:16
Waste not, 6:141; 7:31
Water, animals created from, 21:30; 24:45; 25:54; two bodies of flowing water, 25:53; 18:60, 35:12; 55:19-20, God’s Throne over the waters, 11:7; circulation of, 23:1
Wealth, hoarding condemned, 104:2-3
Widows, 2:234-235, 240
Will of God, 10:99-100; 81:29; 82:8
Winds, like heralds of glad tidings, 7:57-58; 15:22, 30:46, 48, 51; mystic symbolism, 77:1-6
Wine, 2:219, 5:90, heavenly wine, 47:15; 76:21; 83:25
Witnesses, among men, 2:143; 22:78
Woman, wronged, plea accepted, 58:1-2
Women, 2:222-223; 4:15, 19-22, 34, 127; to be reverenced, 4:1; false charges against, 24:4-5, 11-20; 24:23-26; modesty, 24:30-31; believing, refugees, 60:10-12
World, this, but play and amusement, 6:32; 29:64; 47:36; 57:20; deceives men, 6:130; not to be preferred, 9:38-39; 13:26; 28:60-61; gets its reward, but not in Hereafter, 11:15-17; 17:18; 42:20, man loves, 75:20-21; 76:27;
Worship, true worship and charity, 107:2-7
Writing, for contracts, 2:282
Wrongdoers, 11:18-22, 101-104

Yahya (John the Baptist), birth, 3:39; 6:85; his character and position, 19:12-15; reverenced God, 21:90
Ya Sin, S.36
Yunus, S.10; see also Jonah
Yusuf, S.12; see also Joseph

Zayd the freed man, 33:37-38
Zachariah (Zakariya), 3:37-11; 6:85; 19:2-11; 21:90
Zakat (Prescribed Charity), 2:43
Zanjabil, 76:17
Zaqqum, 37:62-66; 44:43-46; 56:52
Zaynab, daughter of Jahsh, 33:37-38
Zihar, 33:4; 58:2-4
Zalzalah, S.99
Zakhruf, S.43
Zumar, S.39